

*Patriotic Sentiment Current*

*During Civil War Period*

# ANNALS OF IOWA

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*Established 1863*

*Third Series*

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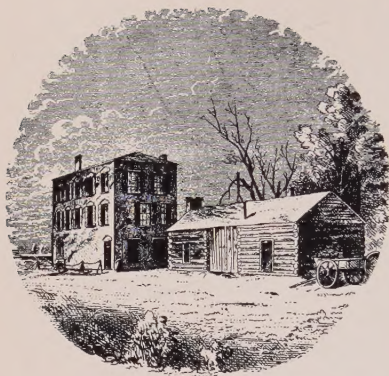
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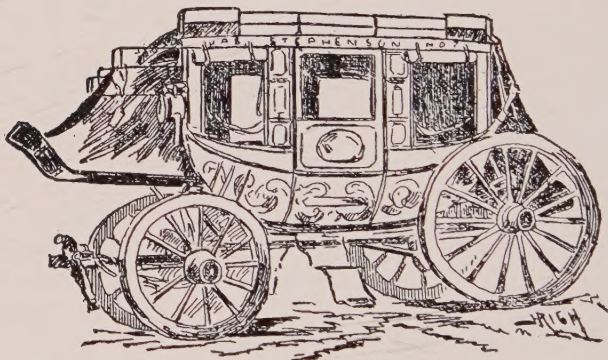




First Brick Building in Des  
Moines, built at 'Coon  
Point by Jim Campbell



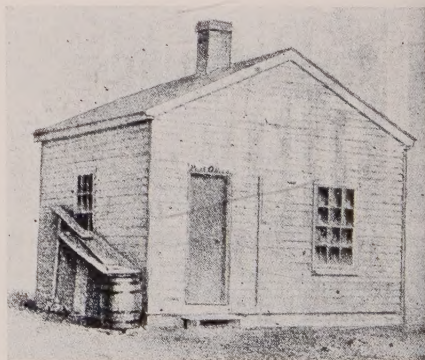
First Public School building in  
Des Moines, at 9th and Locust  
built in 1855, cost \$11,000



Colonel Hooker's Stage Coach  
First Public Transportation



Old Indian Agency  
at Des Moines



First Post Office Building  
in Des Moines

# Annals of Iowa

ESTABLISHED 1863

VOL. XXXI, No. 5

DES MOINES, JULY, 1952

THIRD SERIES

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## POLK COUNTY BEGINNINGS

By CLAUDE R. COOK, *Curator*

Polk county was organized under law of the Iowa territorial legislature enacted in January, 1846. In that year, four townships in the northern part of what afterwards was to become Warren county, were attached to Polk, through the intervention of Thomas Mitchell, Dr. Fagen, Dr. Hull and others, who were solicitous that Fort Des Moines should become the county seat. A projected village by the name of Brooklyn, now known in history only, was inaugurated on paper by Dr. Brooks, Jerry Church and William Lamb, who intended it to ornament the soil two miles northeast of the fort, as a competitor of Fort Des Moines. The result was that the latter place secured the ascendancy, and Brooklyn went houseless to its solitary grave.

In 1853, after the purpose of annexing the four townships from Warren county had been achieved, namely, the location of Fort Des Moines as county seat, these four townships were returned to Warren county. A commission on location appointed by the legislature were: Thomas Hughes of Johnson, M. L. Williams of Mahaska, and Giles M. Pineo of Scott county. In the county seat contest, a gentleman named A. D. Jones, the first county surveyor, was an earnest champion of the fort.

The first election in the county occurred on the 6th day of April, 1846, in one of the old dragoon buildings.



The number of votes polled was 175, the population at that time being about 500. John Saylor was elected probate judge; Thomas Mitchell, sheriff; James Phillips, coroner; A. D. Jones, surveyor; Thomas McMullin, recorder; William F. Ayres, treasurer; G. B. Clark, assessor; Addison Michael, collector; and Benjamin Saylor, William H. Metchem, and E. W. Fouts, commissioners. The officers were elected to serve until the next election, which took place the following August. After April 6, 1846, election records are missing as to the subsequent elections.

At the following August elections, Addison Michael and Sanford Starr were chosen justices of the peace. These were the first justices in the county. Up to this time all disputes or matters of litigation were decided by the military.

On April 28, 1846, the first civil case for the United States as plaintiff and Campbell Reeves, defendant, was tried before Addison Michael. It was a complaint asking for a search warrant. The sheriff made return that neither goods nor defendant were to be found.

Fort Des Moines as a town, was laid out June 4, 1846, by A. D. Jones surveyor, assisted by Dr. Fagan. A rope, instead of a chain was employed for the purpose. As late as 1853, when the population of Fort Des Moines still was about 500, a large number of people lived in the military garrison buildings. There were cabins, which had been hastily constructed for emergencies. There was but one church building in the place and this belonged to the Methodists.

First birth at Fort Des Moines was in early 1845. An infant daughter was born to Lt. Greer and his wife. The daughter did not live long. A few weeks before the birth of this daughter, a child was born to J. M. Thrift and wife, living east of the river. This was a son.

June 11, 1846, Judge Casady and Dr. Fagan, W. D. Frazee, an attorney, took dinner at the residence of Thomas Mitchell, at Apple Grove. A wedding of Benjamin Bryant and Miss Elvira Birge occurred on that

date, as well as the infliction of a snake bite on the person of Orrin Mitchell, son of the Apple Grove landlord. But Dr. Fagan made up a prescription for the boy consisting of tobacco and whiskey. The bite was cured, but later the boy lost his life in the military service of his country.

An event in those days which called for celebration and rather fantastic amusements, was the pay of the annuity to the Indians. The first annuity was paid by the government in what was afterwards called Polk county in 1843. In these celebrations the Indians displayed their distinctive traits of character and the white spectators either looked on or took part in some of the amusements.

#### PROVISION FOR COUNTY SEAT

In 1846, the United States congress passed a special act authorizing the agents of Polk county to pre-empt 160 acres of land in legal subdivisions for the plat of the county seat. About 140 acres were secured for the county seat. William Lamb has the record of building one of the first dwelling houses in the county near the old Allen packing house, and history gives B. T. Hoxie the credit for keeping the first regular citizens store. His son H. M. was clerk of the district court later. The first frame house was built by Addison Michael in 1847, and the first brick by L. D. Winchester.

In 1846, Reuben W. Sypher who had come to Fort Des Moines from Indiana, set up to sell goods at the trading post of Phelps & Company, which was located near the site of the present Rock Island passenger depot. B. T. Hoxie sold goods at this same cabin in 1847. He sold out to Benjamin Coffey and a short time later Mr. Syphers sold goods at the same place. In the fall of 1847, Mr. Sypher transferred his business to his new store building at the north-east corner of Second and Vine streets. When he proposed to build a business house as far north as Vine street, which was but one block from Market street, the citizens laughed at him and thought he was partly crazy. Mr. Sypher built



on Fourth street, between Walnut street and Court avenue, paying for the two lots the enormous sum of \$30.00, or \$15.00 a lot.

Of course all of the trading posts were log cabins, and for that matter some of the residences were too.

#### COUNTRY AREAS SETTLED

In the four-year interim between 1846-1850, the different settlements in the county were known as Apple Grove and Wallace's Prairie. Apple Grove was in Beaver township and Wallace's Grove in Camp township, where Lafayette stands. Trullinger's Grove in Franklin township, Four Mile settlement, Mud Creek, Saylor's Grove and Hopkins Grove, the last of which being in the northern part of the county. These settlements were all east of the Des Moines river. On the west were Ayres Grove, Walnut Creek, and McClean's settlements. Keokuk Prairie and Lynn Grove were located in what is now Warren county, but formerly were in Polk county. Although obscured somewhat by lack of information, it is rather definitely clear that Keokuk Prairie was the former abode of the Chieftain Keokuk and village, and embraces all the bottom land between the Des Moines and North river.

There was a small island in the Des Moines river embracing about two acres, extending from where Court avenue bridge stands, to a point just below confluence of the two rivers. And another island, larger, was located about one-fourth mile farther down. Both were covered by a dense growth of trees, mostly cottonwood and elm. Time and erosion eliminated these islands. There was a soldier's cemetery at the corner of Third and Locust street, and at one time there were four or five graves in it. The little daughter of Lt. Greer was buried there. The remains were later exhumed and taken to his eastern home.

#### CELEBRATED FIRST SETTLEMENT

Midnight, October 11, 1845, the report of a gun announced the fact that the reign of civilization had really commenced. Torchlight parades and hundreds of set-



tlers marked the entrance into this unbroken wilderness of the west. The clank of axes, as they swung into the trees, were heard on many sides and there, during the night, were transferred before the morning light, to the ownership of men, lands that were to be handled by these men and transform this wild region from its state of nature to a high condition of improvement.

The principal rural settlements in the county in 1849 were Jefferson township, on Beaver creek; Walnut township, west of the fort; Madison township in the northern part of the county on Skunk river; and still others in Saylor bottom, on Four Mile creek, and at Apple Grove and in Elm township.

What was called the new code at the time, had gone into effect in 1851, and 1852 was the year for the election of the first county judge proper, whose name was F. G. Burbridge.

During the administration of Byron Rice as county judge, Hardin and Story counties were organized, the former into two townships, Kossuth and Washington, and the latter into the townships of Pierce and Scott, named for the rival candidates for president in 1852. At that time, in 1852, Polk county had jurisdiction for election and revenue purposes, over all northern and western Iowa, except Dallas and Boone counties.

#### SETTLER'S RIGHTS PROTECTED

This was the era of plain tempers, for from the time it had been known that the lands would ultimately be open to market, many speculators from the east had thoroughly explored the country and made such selection of real estate as would suit them, regardless of the rights of settlers. In time the rapacity of these speculators, and the selfishness of other men, became so alarming and so aggressive that on the 8th of April, 1848, a meeting was held at Fort Des Moines of the citizens, to take some action for the defense of the settlers who were already here. The meeting was held and the resolutions were drawn protecting the rights

of the settlers and undertaking to establish some semblance of order. The resolutions were unanimously adopted. J. B. Scott, Thomas Mitchell of Apple Grove, John Saylor of Saylorville and Dr. Fagen and Thomas Henderson were appointed a committee, having the matter in charge.

A large number of signatures were obtained to the resolutions. The claim laws were unknown to the statutes of the United States and they originated out of the necessity of things, and the rights were claimed under the Constitution of the United States. For the most part the validity of these claims were recognized on the part of the settler. In 1839, an act was passed making the transfer of valid consideration to support a promise to pay for the same. The Supreme Territorial Court held this to be valid.

W. H. McHenry, who came to Des Moines in 1848, just in the midst of all this claim excitement, states that the people were a law unto themselves. The machinery of the courts had been imperfectly introduced and lynch law often took the place of the more civilized code. The people enacted what were styled, "Club Laws," for the government of society. These laws had special jurisdiction in all cases concerning the rights of claim holders. Each man staked out his claim and went to work on it, building his cabin and making other improvements. The club appointed the secretary and made it a part of his duty to record the numbers of the land belonging to the members of the club. It was further a part of his duty to attend land sales held in Iowa City and bid the lands off in the names of the settlers. The settlers were to attend the sales too and as far as practicable, knock down and drag out any person who should attempt to interfere with the secretary in the purchase of their lands. The secretary faithfully performed his duty along with the people in the enforcement of these club laws. No continuances were allowed, no dilatory pleas were heard, no appeals were granted by Judge "Lynch." His judgments were swift and certain.

## "CLAIM CLUB" CONTROVERSIES

An interesting incident grew out of this club activity. Asa Fleming had a claim south of Fort Des Moines. B. Perkins, member of the club, filed an intention to pre-empt the property. Fleming informed the claim members of his wrongs and a crowd soon gathered around him to vindicate his imperiled rights. Perkins, apprised of his danger, took his horse and fled toward the Raccoon ferry. He was followed by a multitude of exasperated citizens armed with guns and other implements of warfare. He managed to get away, though he was repeatedly shot at. After a few days, not hearing from his enemies, Perkins emerged from his retreat, had a warrant issued for the arrest of Fleming on assault with the intent to kill. Fleming's friends gathered again, proceeded with force to the office of Justice of Peace Benjamin Luce, rescued their friend, gave him a horse, then escorted him in triumph to his home.

But Perkins had his enemy again arrested. Again, nearly a hundred friends of Fleming massed for resistance and undertook to order the ferryman to take them across. He refused to do it unless they stacked their arms and became peaceable subjects of law and order. They reluctantly complied and were taken over and entered the town unarmed. Fleming was tried and Perkins' charges found true and the prisoner gave bonds for his appearance in the next term of the district court. The grand jury failed to find a bill against Fleming and Perkins had to give Fleming a bond. This ended what is called the Fleming war.

An interesting incident in connection with it however, is that a man named Holland, who was temporarily stopping at the fort, was suspected of complicity with Perkins. The "Claim Club," already excited by the irritating events, decided to execute vengeance upon Holland by carrying out the orders of Judge "Lynch" and hanging him immediately. Before the rope was adjusted, however, Holland asked permission to make some farewell remarks. His speech was such a mag-



nificent and movingly eloquent discourse that he disarmed his foes and made them his fast friends. He was not the first, nor even the last, to talk himself out of a very tight place.

The early settlers association was organized Feb. 26, 1868. The officers were: Thomas Mitchell, president; R. L. Tidrick, recording secretary; Hoyt Sherman, corresponding secretary; B. F. Allen treasurer. The first meeting was held in the council rooms and twenty-five people were present. Isaac Cooper was temporary chairman and Peter Meyers was temporary secretary.

#### STEAM POWER EMPLOYED

A. D. Fuller and P. H. Buzzard made the first plow and wagon in the county in 1847. The first drayman was Michael Kennedy, who came to Des Moines in 1855. The first steam power was employed by C. C. Van, in 1848. The first steam power employed in journalism was by John Teesdale on the *Register* in 1859.

The first stove store was kept by Jesse S. Dicks, in 1849. The first power printing press was used by T. H. Sypher, on the *Citizen*, in 1856. This was a Guernsey style press run by hand. The first piano in Fort Des Moines was owned by Capt. F. R. West. The first ice dealer was E. R. Clapp.

The county was originally divided February 2, 1847, into four townships; Des Moines, Madison, Camp and Skunk. Allen, Four Mile and Saylor were organized January 4, 1848. Jackson township was organized June 16, 1859, but was vacated and restored to Madison county July 12 of the same year. A portion of Saylor was attached to Des Moines township, October 3, 1849. Beaver was organized from parts of Scott and Camp townships January 9, 1850; Delaware, October 9, 1850; Jefferson, January 2, 1851; Halcart, 1851; Washington and Franklin on March 6, 1856; Lee, September 28, 1857; Douglas, September 6, 1858; a portion of Camp was added to Four Mile September 21, 1858, and on the same date a part of Four Mile was attached to Lee. Bloomfield was organized September 20, 1858; Walnut

township was organized from portions of Jefferson, and Des Moines, January 7, 1860, it was organized with certain changes March 26, 1860. On October 1, 1860, a portion of this township was added to Jefferson, leaving the boundaries of both townships as they now exist. Valley township was organized March 26, 1860; Grant from a portion of Lee, September 7, 1870. Saylor, re-organized Crocker and Lincoln were constituted as parts of Madison, Lee and Saylor township December 26, 1870. Skunk, one of the original townships, was absorbed by Washington, Elkhart and Franklin.

#### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

County government began under what was called the Commissioner's System. The board of commissioners was elected for the first time April 6, 1846, before the territory became a state. The first meeting took place April 13 of that year. The first three commissioners were: William H. Metcham, Benjamin Saylor and E. W. Fouts, with William McKay, clerk of the board.

One of the first acts of the board was to employ the eagle-side of a half dollar as a temporary seal, with which to authenticate their business.

April 14, A. D. Jones was ordered to lay out a town site selected for the county seat of Polk county. July 1st, sale of lots was ordered for the 15th of July in Fort Des Moines. July 6th, judges were appointed for the ensuing August election.

July 7th, a poll tax of fifty cents on each male over twenty-one years of age was ordered. Constables were appointed for the January term, 1847.

During the 1847, February term, John Scott was authorized to keep ferries across the river with rates as follows: footman, .05 cents, horsemen, .12½ cents, wagon and span of horses, .37½ cents. These rates were to apply at both rivers.

The first entry of the board of commissioners, under the state organization, is dated April 12, 1847. Edward Martin was allowed to keep a ferry at his residence,

and the township of Four Mile was organized. At the July meeting, 1847, the county was divided into three commissioner districts, and the county of Boone was set off from Polk and called Boone precinct. October 7th, the same year, the board bought a lot from Thomas McMullen on which to build the court house, for which they paid \$25.00. The court house was originally designed to be of frame material, but it was afterwards changed to brick, with stone foundation.

January term, 1848, Sheriff Thomas Mitchell was paid \$6.00 for arresting one Davis for passing counterfeit money and for crossing the river, supper, breakfast, horse feed, horse hire, traveling forty miles and serving the writ. At the same term it was ordered that a lot be given to the M.E. church, provided that a house of worship, either frame or brick, not less than 24 x 30, should be erected thereon within two years.

Contract for the court house was given to John Saylor for \$2,050.00. October 4th, Edwin Hall was allowed to build a dam at the site where they afterward erected a mill on the Des Moines river.

November 20, 1849, R. W. Sypher was allowed by the board to finish the jail, which had been started by James Garrant and George Shell; the latter died before the completion of the work. At the same time John Saylor was released from the court house contract, having been paid \$225.00, and John C. Jones and Samuel Gray were authorized to finish the structure. The former to do the carpenter and the latter the mason work.

#### FORMAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The first probate judge was named William Rickey, who went into office September 18, 1846. The first county judge was F. G. Burbridge, who was elected in August, 1851.

The first marriage license issued by the county court was dated August 11, 1851, was to Avery Hoskins and Amanda Michael.

In July, 1847, Boone county was set off from Polk



and was called Boone. The county has had three district systems of government. The executive management was first vested in a board of commissioners. Next came the county judges, the last of whom were re-elected in August of 1857, and retired in 1860.

January 7, 1861, the supervisor system went into operation, assuming complete control of county matters. The first members of the board were elected at the previous election on November 6, 1860.

One of the first acts of the board was to secure control of the work on the new court house. Judge Napier, in 1857, had given to Isaac Cooper the contract for building this. The fifth day of January, 1863, the board of supervisors took up their final quarters in the new court house, the contract price being \$64,300.00.

Early in May, 1865, one hundred twenty acres of land was purchased in Saylor township for \$4,000.00 for a county home. Later one hundred sixty acres more were secured by the purchase of an adjoining tract of land.

The first term of the district court commenced for Polk county on April 6, 1846, at Fort Des Moines in a room occupied by a Miss Davis, for school purposes. The judge was Joseph Williams of Muscatine, a supreme court justice. The district attorney, Thomas Baker.

The first murder in the judicial record was tried in the September court, 1854. A man by the name of Pleasant Fouts was indicted for the murder of his wife.

#### A LAND OFFICE LOCATED

The United States land office was opened at Fort Des Moines, January 28, 1853.

The state capitol was moved to Des Moines in 1857. The bill which made the first appropriation for the erection of the new capitol was approved by Governor Merrill, April 13, 1870.

#### COAL MINING SYSTEMATIZED

In 1873, Wesley Redhead instituted the first system-

atic mining. A few rods south of Racoon bridge, west of the south part, a drill was introduced under the direction of a Mr. Gibson, foreman. At seventy feet, the flint rock was found and this was enough for everyone around Mr. Gibson to advise him to abandon the work. However, he did not share their lack of optimism and after ascertaining how much rod was left ordered the work to proceed. After four weeks the rock was finally penetrated and the drill quickly descended through a vein, revealing five feet thick of black diamond coal at a depth of 150 feet. Upon this information, he secured from B. F. Allen, the banker, an investment in the Black Diamond Coal Mine of \$35,000.00. The shaft was sunk to the required depth and in a short time all the appliances belonging to a first-class mine were visible and coal was brought to the surface. It was not long before two miles of road were leading to the passages of the mine and forty men were employed in working this rich lead. This, of course, was the beginning of a number of coal companies being organized in the county and around it.

The first plow factory was built in Des Moines in 1851. The first foundry in the fall of 1856.

August 29, 1866, the railroad reached the capital from Eddyville. It had reached Eddyville in 1861, where the terminus remained for the intervening period. During that time people from this section had to travel in coaches, nearly a hundred miles. Not long after the railroad's entrance into Des Moines, the line was extended to Fort Dodge.

The first newspaper in Des Moines was inaugurated in 1849. It was the *Star*. The files of this paper are in the newspaper division at the State Historical building.

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## On Whose Side

It was Abraham Lincoln's advice to the states to "work and to pray, not that the Almighty be on our side, but that we be on His."

# An Eloquent Iowan Delivered Patriotic Fourth of July Address

By JUDGE JOHN L. MORSE\*

[The manuscript of this address is in the handwriting of Judge Morse, and comes to the Iowa State Department of History and Archives from Mrs. Elvert M. Davis, of Tallahassee, Florida. He was the speaker of the day at Belmond, Iowa, July 4, 1866. It presents a type of oration current during the two decades immediately following the close of the Civil war. Drum corps composed of Union soldiers enlivened these patriotic celebrations, which were all-day events with basket picnic dinners, and fireworks at night. Athletic events occupied the afternoon, sometimes including baseball games or races. The military spirit was still rife in the Northern states and impassioned oratory usually marked the speeches delivered.—Editor.]

It was with a feeling of being greatly honored that I accepted the invitation extended to speak to this assembly. You know my occupation and the busy season of the year; also the necessary and pressing demands of the coming harvest; and, besides, that I did not come to Iowa to be a talker—I came to be a worker.

Moved by the impulses of this reforming and progressive age, I became enamoured of the fame of the Great Valley of the Mississippi. I learned of its immense and endless resources, its amazing fertility of soil, the majesty of its rivers, the grandeur of its scenic spots, the vastness of green and blooming prairies, and the enterprise of its people; where a field of a thousand acres of wheat is considered only a moderate lot, and Indian corn raised by the mile instead of by the acre; here miles of railroads are built every day, and the most successful and modern transportation sys-

\* John Lines Morse was a native of Cortland county, New York, born in Cortland village in May 13, 1815. When seventeen years of age he moved with his father to Oakland county, Michigan, and in 1837 settled in Ionia county of that state. He became well known



tems operated in the United States, of any upon the face of the globe.

Beautiful Iowa is situated in the very heart of this magnificent valley, contiguous and of easy access to its principal city on Lake Michigan, which is soon to become the center of the exchange and commerce of the whole world. Her munificent means for the education of her children, her unexampled prosperity in the arts of peace, her gallantry in war, inclined me towards her. And I thought it well to make the home of myself and children in a community where the Fourth of July could be appropriately celebrated, whether we had a basket or a table dinner; where they might rear themselves homes, and become useful and working citizens of a state located in the center of the American empire, forming one of the brightest stars in that constellation of states, which will constitute the wealthiest, most powerful and enlightened nation upon the face of the earth.

The Fourth of July, the day we celebrate, is a day which has become hallowed in the affections of the American people from the fact that it is the birthday of a free nation, the day on which our forefathers announced to the world that there was a new nation and a new people upon the new continent, governed and controlled by motives and principles contrary to the then accepted opinions of mankind, a people which asserted for all men the right of self-government, and proclaimed that that right must be maintained in the new nation at every hazard and every sacrifice.

Wherefore, it is well that the people in their respective neighborhoods and communities should meet to-

as an able lawyer and forceful public speaker; in 1845 was elected to the Michigan state legislature, afterward serving as judge of the probate court for eight years from 1856. In 1866, he moved with his family to Wright county, Iowa, and the same year was elected county judge, serving until 1868; elected as county auditor in 1870, serving until 1876; elected that year as state representative from the Wright-Hamilton-Humboldt county district and served in the Sixteenth Iowa General Assembly. He was the first mayor of Belmond, and spent the remainder of his life there, his death occurring August 22, 1894.—Editor.

gether and, not only with praise and songs of gratitude, but in a spirit of deep concern and inquiry, note the progress of our country in its material and moral advancement, review its past and contemplate its future, cherish its glories and forget its shame, and consider well the causes which have been productive of its greatest prosperity, as well as those which have led to its calamities and disasters, that we may see our way more clearly in the future.

It is well on the annual return of this day, to go back into the past and investigate the causes, events and surroundings which have brought into existence this new nation and new people, so peculiar and so different from all other peoples and who are now so rapidly revolutionizing the whole world by their influence and example.

Two hundred and fifty years ago our country, now the happy and busy home of forty millions of people, was a vast and unbroken wilderness. (And so we may comprehend how short a time that is, the speaker will say he has lived one-fifth part of it.) It was then solely occupied by tribes of savages and wild beasts and waiting, as it were, for the hand of civilization, and the genial influences of Christianity, to reclaim it from its wild and rugged grandeur and to make its deserts blossom with fruitfulness and its valleys and plains joyous with the songs of praise and the lively and stirring scenes of labor and commerce.

And at the same time the Old World, from which the New must be peopled, was being stirred by the spirit of adventure, tumults, contentions, and religious persecutions, which were preparing the way for the great advent to the New World.

There, at that time, it was held that kings were the annointed of God and had a divine right to rule, and that the church was the state and the state the church, and that men's religious opinions must be regulated by law. And hence in every country, men were being persecuted for opinion's sake. The Protestant, the Lu-

theran, the Catholic, all alike if they were in the minority, had the same inexorable logic dealt out to them. Exile or submission was the only alternative.

To escape this, men turned their eyes toward the New World, where a refuge from their persecutors might be found. Of course they knew that it was an enterprise attended with hazard, privation and toil. They knew that they must leave the scenes of their childhood, never to behold them again; their friends and relatives, if they left any, were as effectually separated from them in this world as though death had intervened; that they must face hostile savages, the pangs of hunger, the cold of winter, and the deadly malaria of the unclaimed and uncultivated swamps. But all this counted as nothing; all these and more than these could they cheerfully endure for the sake of liberty. Their only desire was to dwell in peace under their own vine, and worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences.

Such were the events and such the motives that mainly determined the settlement of the United States of America. It is true that the desire of the monarchs of Europe to extend their dominions and plant colonies subject to them, promoted, somewhat, the facilities for this enterprise, but the primary cause was the yearning for religious and civil liberty. The persecuted churches, under charters obtained from the sovereigns, commenced to plant colonies. The far-famed ship, the Mayflower, landed the devout Puritan upon the rugged shores of New England. The Hollander, with his Dutch Reform church, made his home upon the banks of the Hudson; the Swede and the Dane in New Jersey; and the persecuted Roman Catholics, under the auspices of Lord Baltimore, founded the State of Maryland. Wm. Penn planted his Quaker friends in Pennsylvania, which also was largely settled by Germans. The Huguenot, when driven from sunny France, found a home in the wilds of the Carolinas.

Thus, it will be seen that the first settlers of our country were men from all the nations of Western Eu-



rope, speaking diverse languages, having no feelings or sympathy in common, but in fact hostile towards those of other nationalities. But there was one sentiment in common which appertained to them. That was a desire to escape and be protected from persecution. They were all imbued with the love of liberty and a wholesome hatred of their European oppressors, and they were intent upon being protected from them.

This common sentiment and love of freedom which prevailed among them, the necessities of their situation, and the fact that they were soon absorbed by and brought under the dominion of the one government of Great Britain, created a community of interest among them and in a measure obliterated the prejudices of birth and nativity, and the influences of trade association and intermarriages gradually molded these colonies into one common and homogeneous people. Having brought with them from the Old World the best blood of Europe and the most enlightened and progressive ideas of that age of the world, they were just the men to found a new race and a new dynasty.

The governments which were first established by these colonies were as near Republican as their charters would permit, and were more or less participated in by all the people. And thus early were they becoming accustomed to self-government, and demonstrating to the world the practicability of free governments among men.

Liberty of conscience and freedom in religious worship with few exceptions were permitted. To the little Roman Catholic commonwealth of Maryland under Lord Baltimore belongs the high honor of being the first government under the sun which established by law perfect freedom of its citizens in matters of religion. And in the course of time her wise example was followed by all the others. Under these influences and motives, operating upon them for a period of one hundred and fifty years, and by the process of a slow and steady growth they had developed themselves as

a people with characteristics physical, moral, and mental, entirely different from any other. In fact, they were a new race of men and women, with a destiny more grand than had ever before fallen to any people. They were neither English, Irish, French, nor Dutch. They were a conglomerate of all these. They were neither Saxon nor Celt. They were Americans made up of a mixed blood of almost all the nations of the Old World, the children of a New Continent with new ideas of religious toleration, with new views of the science of government, with a new spiritual enterprise, and the founders and propagators of an entirely new civilization. They were in every material, political, and moral sense emphatically a new people.

These colonies at this time numbered about 3,000,000 people. They had commenced to amass considerable wealth, with a growing commerce, which had begun to attract the attention of the nations of Europe. They were under the rule and dominion of Great Britain, which was termed the Mother country. Instead of extending to them that maternal care which was their just due, she exercised toward them a spirit of jealousy and oppression. She claimed the right to the exclusive control and absolute government over them, and in a measure attempted to execute it. She claimed that she might impose taxes upon them to any extent, and without their consent. She denied them the right of representation in the British parliament, which was contrary to the theory of the British constitution, and especially obnoxious to the views and temperament of the American people.

The people of these colonies, having grown up amidst the toils and privations of a new country, having been forced by the neglect of the Mother county to the management of their own affairs, and being imbued somewhat with a warlike spirit from their constant wars with the hostile Indians, were not the people to submit quietly to exactions and pretensions of this kind. They had learned in the hard school of experience that no

price was too great to pay for the preservation of their liberties, and they believed that resistance to tyrants was obedience to God. But the Mother country persisted in her oppressive policy.

The colonies remonstrated in vain until forbearance ceased any longer to be a virtue and at last they revolted and entered upon an armed rebellion against the rule and authority of the British government and thus inaugurated what is known to us as the Revolutionary war. And, in the midst of that contest, in the heat and smoke of battle, with all the doubtful contingencies of the result hanging over them, our forefathers at Philadelphia, just ninety-two years ago today, then and there declared the thirteen colonies to be sovereign and independent states, and the new nation was born and christened the United States of America.

In that quiet old Quaker city, amid the ringing of bells and the shouts of the people, they proclaimed the fundamental principles upon which the new government should be based. They declared that governments were instituted for the benefit of mankind; that any people had the natural right to cast off the old forms of government and make for themselves new ones, if they pleased; that governments could be rightly instituted among men only by the consent of the governed; that all men were created equal, with certain inalienable rights, among which were life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, to maintain which they then and there mutually pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

Through eight long dreary years they struggled, toiled, and fought, sacrificing most of their wealth and the choicest of their young blood, enduring every privation and hardship. But they were upheld by a steadfast and unwaivering faith, never doubting, until victory crowned their efforts at last. And ten years after the Declaration of Independence, the United States was one of the acknowledged nations of the earth.



Never, perhaps, was the scriptural maxim that "God will make the wrath of men praise him," so aptly demonstrated as in the rise and progress of the United States. We see that the religious persecution, which had for its purpose the crushing of all spirit of human inquiry and the prevention of all reforms and progress in religion, resulted in the establishment of universal toleration of religious opinion in one great nation and has essentially modified the views, systems, and practices of the whole world in that respect. And we see also that the wicked and oppressive measures of the British Monarchy toward her colonies finally brought into existence the only truly democratic Republican government ever established upon the face of the earth. While powerful, wicked, and ambitious men meant evil, and designed to perpetuate oppression and wrong, a merciful Providence overruled everything in behalf of liberty and right. Thus, civil and religious liberty, after a lapse of five thousand years, had at last secured a foothold among the habitations of men and there it will ever remain. Revolutions never go backwards. Truths which are immutable remain forever, and when once learned, always have their faithful votaries.

I apprehend that the friends of human freedom will never be less, and that as the world becomes more enlightened they will become more numerous; and that the time must come when the principles and the doctrines enunciated by our forefathers in the Declaration of Independence will be the political faith of the whole world and the basis of all laws made for the government of mankind.

From 1780 to 1860, a period of eighty years, the prosperity of the American people was unparalleled in the history of the world. In material wealth, in education, in the arts and sciences, in commerce, and in almost every endeavor she excelled. The wealth of her people had increased more than a hundred fold. From thirteen states she now numbered thirty-two. She had

more than doubled the area of her territory, reaching from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. Her population had risen from 3,000,000 to 35,000,000. She had carried herself triumphantly through two foreign wars. She had attracted to herself and made citizens of millions of people from every part of the Old World. She had become the refuge and asylum of the down-trodden and oppressed of every land. And she retained within her borders the best-educated, the best-fed, the best-clothed, and the most-enlightened people upon the face of the earth.

She had disappointed the Old World enemies of democracy by proving all of their prophecies false. They had predicted that a government of the people by the people must fail; that mankind was not capable of self-government. They said our popular elections would degenerate into mobs, but during that time we had seventeen presidential elections, and they proved to be the most quiet and orderly ones ever held in any country. Quiet and general good order were maintained throughout the entire country, with less tumult and less expense than in any other nation upon the face of the globe. In fact, her prosperity was unparalleled in the history of mankind, and her influence and example were gradually revolutionizing the ideas of men, and planting the seeds of democracy in every corner of the earth.

But, she had another ordeal to pass through. She had in store for her a terrible trial, which was to test the power and strength of her institutions and to determine forever the question whether a democratic government had within itself the inherent power to protect and defend itself in every emergency, and against such dangers as might arise to thwart its progress or destroy its existence.

Civil wars and intestine convulsions are trials which are incident to all nations. I am not aware of any which have been exempt. Such is the nature of men and the strength of human passions, that questions of

governmental policy of so great magnitude will sometimes arise and be insisted upon with so much tenacity that they must be settled by the sword. This sad fact exists as a general rule among the affairs of mankind. And it is grievous to know that our own dear country has proved no exception to this general rule.

When the Mayflower was making her devious way over the pathless waters to the wilds of the New World, freighted with the persecuted Puritans, whose purpose it was, upon her rugged shores, to plant, create and perfect the institutions of civil and religious liberty, and to lay the foundation of a new empire, which should secure the welfare and happiness of their posterity, there was another ship bearing to the same inviting shores the seeds of the most terrible war, the most grievous sorrow and the most direful calamity that was ever experienced by any people. She was proceeding over and through the horrors of the well-known middle passage, freighted with human beings divested of every quality of manhood and of human rights, to be sold and disposed of like beasts that they might fill with gold the coffers of greedy colonists who, though so inspired with the love of liberty that they had themselves fled from their native lands to escape the persecutions and oppressions of other men, through the influence of avarice and the dread of toil, had made themselves believe that there were men, children of God, whom it would be right for them to buy, whip, torture, and drive to daily and unpaid tasks, that they might live in indolence and roll in the wealth of unrequited toil. With all their religious zeal and ostentatious piety they thought in their hearts that they could nullify one Almighty decree. And thus were they prepared to enter upon the terrible experiment of procuring their bread by the sweat of other men's brows. Thus without thought or perhaps even care for the consequences to their posterity, they became the purchasers of this calamitous freight, and so American slavery—the curse, the shame, and the one great



calamity of our country—became one of the fixed institutions of the rising nation. For some inscrutable reason, which we cannot fathom, this institution was permitted to flourish, grow, and mature for the harvest of war and death which was to follow it.

Therefore, at the time of the organization of the Republic, 700,000 of its people were held in bondage, mere chattels in law, divested of all civil rights with a hopeless prospect for the future, so far as human sagacity could see. But God, who never forgets his poor, had laid up in store a day of jubilee even for the poor slave.

This institution of slavery was a matter of grave anxiety and concern to the fathers of the Republic. They feared for the future. It was regarded by them as a great wrong, and wholly incompatible with the theory and principles of the Declaration of Independence. They knew it must come to an end sometime; how it was to be they scarcely dared to think. They feared that it would eventually involve the country in a servile war or in some way bring upon it the judgments of Heaven. Thomas Jefferson, the proponent of American democracy, said of it that he trembled for his country when he reflected that God was just, for he had no attribute which could take sides with the master against the slave in a servile contest. Washington urged emancipation upon his countrymen, and at his death gave freedom to all his slaves as an example to them, and he declared that his constant prayer was that God in wisdom might enable them in some way to put away this great evil from their midst and withhold them from his vengeful wrath.

Our sturdy forefathers who were founding an empire greater than they knew, believed in the agencies of a Divine Providence in the affairs and destiny of men and nations. While they recognized with gratitude His manifold and wonderful providences in their behalf, they also were inspired with a wholesome fear of the judgments and retributions which He might visit

upon the sins of the nation and people. We in our more modern wisdom may call this superstition. It may be, but that superstition which admonishes men to fear God and eschew evil is far better than the wisdom of "the fool who says in his heart there is no God," and hence infers that he may indulge in every wicked propensity, gratify every evil passion, and practice every kind of oppression and wrong with perfect impunity.

But this institution of slavery was suffered to remain. The fathers, by the solemn enactments of law, having prohibited it forever in all the territories then belonging to the United States, hoped and professed to believe that by confining it to the limits already occupied by it, the people, through the influence of Christianity and the doctrines of the Declaration of Independence, would abolish it in a quiet and peaceable manner, at a not very remote period. But, in this they were mistaken.

In the meantime, slavery became a source of great pecuniary profit to the southern states of the Union. New territories, which in the main were slave territories, had been acquired, and the production of cotton by slave labor had come to be the controlling and staple interest of the southern states, and the slaves had increased from 700,000 to nearly 4,000,000.

Slavery became, also, a disturbing and controlling element in the political affairs of the nation. It was aggressive in its character and pretensions. It demanded more room for expansion. It disregarded and overturned compromises and stipulations heretofore made in its behalf. It was a prolific source of vexatious questions and continual agitations, and a constant menace to the peace and security of the country.

At last it conceived the idea of dividing the great Republic, and establishing in the central part of this continent, around the Gulf of Mexico, a great empire whose cornerstone should be slavery, and re-establishing the slave trade for the supply of labor with which

to provide the world with cotton and other tropical productions. They flattered themselves that by means of the wealth thus drawn into the treasury of this tropical empire, they could make it one of the leading and controlling powers of the earth. And for this purpose the slave-holding interest of the southern portion of our Republic inaugurated the great Civil war of our time and between our people.

Now had come the last most trying and final test of the virtue, patriotism, and resources of the American people and of their system of government. It was to be seen whether a democratic government, based upon largest liberty of the individual citizen, without a standing army, with no other resources but the hearts and hands of its people, could maintain its unity and its existence, and make its authority respected all over its territory against a long-conceived and well-organized rebellion, including within its dominion and rule at least two-fifths of the entire population of the whole country. There was nothing left for the government but to put on its armor, place its trust in God, appeal to the people, and take issue for its life.

It was a "government of the people, by the people, and for the people," and now it was to be seen whether the virtue and patriotism of the people were self-sufficient to preserve it from destruction by its domestic enemies. The aristocrats and monarchs of the Old World and the enemies of republican institutions everywhere clapped their hands for joy. They professed to believe that our time had come, that our nationality was at an end, and that the great democratic republic was a miserable failure and would soon be numbered among the things that were. Especially was this the case among the ruling classes of Great Britain; the attitude of her government and people was extremely unfriendly to us in this day of our trial. She made indecent haste to confer belligerent rights upon the insurgents. She suffered them to build and equip war vessels in her realm, to prey upon our



commerce in violation of the law of nations, she being a neutral. Professing anti-slavery principles, she sympathized with a rebellion, whose sole and avowed purpose was to perpetuate and aggrandize slavery and make it eternal. She proclaimed to the world that she regarded the separation of the states as a conclusive fact, and that all efforts to restore them would be in vain. The enemies of freedom predicted that the American people were so picayune in feelings and temperament, that they would not voluntarily leave their pursuits and money-making to engage in war, but would see their government rather than their businesses destroyed, and that there was not power enough in the government to compel them to do so, and we would fail for want of men.

But, when the booming of the first guns was heard and the government called for its defenders, this prediction was falsified, and the fond delusion and hope which suggested it, dashed to atoms in a moment. No people on earth ever took up arms with the same alacrity that ours did to defend and preserve their government and institutions. They then said that our people being unaccustomed to personal authority could not be disciplined and made into efficient soldiers, that they would be nothing more or less than a mob and would fail in that respect. But the battlefields of Donelson, Shiloh, Gettysburg and around Petersburg, taught our British cousins that it would be a judicious and prudent thing for them to pay to us our demands against them for our vessels and goods destroyed upon the high seas by Rebel privateers outfitted in their harbors.

Then they said that our finances would fail and that we would have to give up the contest for lack of the requisite means. But the money came. The people were as profuse with their money as with their blood, and the resources of the country were found adequate to the emergency. No man living dreamed of the wealth of this nation until its people were brought to this test. They said it was impossible for us to con-

quer 12,000,000 people; such a thing, said they, never was done and never could be done. But it was done. It just happened that of this 12,000,000 people there were 4,000,000 whose prayers and sympathies were always with us. They had the greatest stake of any parties in the contest. With us it was only a question of a united or divided country; our form of government, or some other form. With them it was a question of absolute liberty or perpetual slavery.

The enemies of freedom always ignored this element of the Southern population and counted them as against preservation of the Union. But God Almighty from the beginning, and we toward the end of the contest, recognized them as an element of strength, which for us to ignore meant the destruction of our country. Whatever the purposes of men were in that great Civil war, the purpose of Jehovah was that it should bring freedom to the slave. And that it did. In spite of all of the croakings and prophecies of the enemies of freedom, these proponents of slavery were conquered. The authority of the government and the majesty of the laws were vindicated. The world was now convinced that the American people were able to maintain a democratic government; that they could repel assault from without and suppress rebellions and insurrections from within; that they were abundantly able in men and means to cope with both foreign and domestic foes. Even that much-conceited French emperor, Maximilian, had come to the wise conclusion that discretion was the better part of valor, and quietly retired from Mexico, duly appreciating, no doubt, the victorious bayonets of Sheridan then gleaming upon the banks of the Rio Grande.

In the spring of 1865, after this bloody and sanguinary contest, the equal of which the world never saw, the American nation stood forth boldly and proudly among the nations, the wonder and admiration of mankind. She had passed triumphantly through her severest trial; peace was being established throughout the land; there was not a slave in all her realm. And the

doctrines of the Declaration of Independence had become realities. There she stood, ready to assume the garments of peace and to enter upon a new life and a new civilization, and to re-enter upon her career of growth and prosperity and rapidly move to the destiny which awaits her which is, I have no doubt, to be the most powerful and influential nation upon the earth.

Her sacrifices had been immense, but her reward was magnificent. Her blood and her treasure had been poured out like water. Mourning and sorrow had found its way into almost every home in the land. But the great goal of unity had been reached, the pestiferous doctrine of secession had been destroyed and universal freedom had become the law of the land.

But, there was another trial, another sorrow, which still awaited us. Abraham Lincoln, the presidential head of the nation, whose wisdom, moderation, and gentleness of heart had guided and carried us through this trial, was doomed to die a martyr's death. It fell to his lot to be a crowning, and in some respects a fitting, sacrifice to this righteous cause. Born in poverty, a son of one who could neither read nor write, of that class known in the South as "poor whites," made poor and kept poor by the influence and workings of slavery, accustomed in his boyhood to hard manual labor with scant opportunities for education, by his own personal exertions, Abraham Lincoln had raised himself to such a degree of distinction that he was selected by the nation as their leader. Then the votaries of slavery, when they saw that their cause was lost, in the desperation of their madness and venomous hate, slew him. At a time when he felt that he might in some measure relax from his labors and enjoy in some degree the fruits of the coming peace—in a moment when he was engaged in an innocent amusement beside his wife—they sent the fatal bullet which bore his pure spirit up to God to receive the reward awaiting all such. And when Abraham Lincoln went up to the throne of God, he carried in his



hands the broken fetters of 4,000,000 human beings.

It is no uncommon thing in the history of the world for men to be slain for their virtues. It is a sad fact that men who devote their lives and labors to the rooting up of the crimes and wrongs which oppress and degrade men, are by the devices of wicked men who profit by these wrongs, often put to death; indeed the foundations of the Christian church are cemented by the blood of its martyrs. Even the Savior of mankind, who taught nothing but peace and good will toward men, was a victim of this wicked spirit. Because he proclaimed that his gospel was universal and that his mission was unto all men of all kindreds, Gentile as well as Jew, the Jews procured his crucifixion and death upon the cross, because as they believed, his doctrines would make a Gentile equal with a Jew.

Abraham Lincoln was not slain for any personal reason. His murderer had no personal enmity against him. He was slain because the rebellion had failed, because he had been instrumental in maintaining the unity of the nation, because he had resorted to emancipation as an indispensable means thereto, and because of fear that these measures might in some way work in this country an equality of men before the law. I regard the tragic death of Abraham Lincoln as a noble and perhaps a necessary sacrifice, upon the altar of this our beloved country, to a better civilization and a higher Christianity. I say higher Christianity because I do not understand that there can be any Christianity which does not sympathize with the down-trodden and oppressed of earth; that does not pray with those who are bound as though they themselves were bound with them; that does not make war upon every iniquity and wrong existing in the land. The more it does of these, the more exalted it is.

No genuine Christian is ever exercised with the fear that any man will be made equal to him. He prays and labors to elevate men from the lowest degradation

to the highest possible standard of which they are capable. It is the very pith of his creed.

Three hundred years ago the votaries of the Christian church traversed this valley of the Mississippi and sacrificed their lives not only to elevate savage men to an equality with them, but to make them joint heirs of that kingdom where sorrow, oppression, wrong, and distinctions are never known. The true Sister of Charity, when she finds a human being in distress and in need of her attention and care, never stops to inquire who his father was or where he was born. It is enough for her to know that he is one of those for whom her Lord and Master suffered a cruel and ignominious death.

Fellow citizens, I regard it as the most enviable lot that could befall a man to be born and reared a citizen of this Republic; one which he ought to cherish with affection, gratitude, and pride. And he ought to assume, with cheerfulness, the responsibilities and duties which it imposes upon him. This grand political fabric which our fathers secured is now in our hands for preservation, improvement, and adornment—and must soon be transmitted to our posterity for its ultimate and final completion. When we contemplate its marvelous growth and achievements during its short life of ninety years, what may we expect it to be ninety years hence? With its past ratio of increase and prosperity, it will then be the abode of 400,000,000 people, with a material wealth equal to the present wealth of the entire world.

Upon us, in some measure, rests the responsibility of determining the future moral and political character of that vast community. It is an imperative duty which we cannot ignore, to discharge faithfully and well, every obligation resting upon us as American citizens, to exert all our energies in every possible way to expand its growth and consequence, and to use all honorable means to rightly mold its political and moral institutions, and to determine its governmental policies

as in our respective judgments shall be most conducive to the prosperity and happiness of the people who are to live in it.

We ought to do this, not in accordance with other men's judgment, but according to our own personal convictions of what is just and right. It is not possible for us all to see eye to eye. It is not possible that we shall all be agreed as to what political measures would most likely benefit the country, nor can we agree as to the men most suitable to execute them and to administer the laws of the land.

Nor is one man responsible to another for his opinions or for his votes. He faithfully discharges his entire duty as a good citizen when he exercises these privileges conscientiously and, as he truly believes, for the best interests of himself, his country, and mankind. Every man in the course of his life must indulge in more or less error, it is a part of his nature to do so. But I know of no better or safer tribunal to correct and neutralize error than the public judgment when ascertained. I do not doubt that the American people are intelligent enough, patriotic enough, and Christian enough to determine all of their political controversies wisely and well.

Of the approaching contest for the supremacy in the councils of the nation, I have no fears for the country, whatever may be the result. I know that there are thousands who are almost dying for fear the nation will be ruined if their opinions and their views are not sustained, but they will live to be just as fearful over the impending ruin which they will see just as plainly four years hence. Whether we have a Democratic or Republican president I apprehend the crops will grow just as well. I do not think that in either event the prosperity or happiness of the people will be very much retarded. I believe the honor of the nation will be properly cared for and that she will move right on to the perfection of her institutions and to the goal of her manifest destiny. I believe, to secure for ourselves and to perpetuate for our children



and for our country, these blessings and institutions which we have inherited from our fathers, it is only necessary for every citizen, be he Democrat or Republican, churchman or worldman, to faithfully discharge his civil, religious and political obligations, "with malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives him to see the right." This being done, we can safely leave our country to the guidance of Him who holds the destinies of the world in his hands.

Then, let us one and all henceforth, with renewed alacrity and zeal, put forth all our energies to promote the material and intellectual growth of our country. Let us spare no exertions, which may in any way operate or tend to develop her inexhaustible resources. Let us multiply and elevate to the highest possible standard her institutions of learning to the end that the minds of the people may become enlarged, noble, and exalted. Let us by our influence and example, show to the world of mankind the safety, strength, beneficence, and beauty of our Republican institutions. Let us through the thousand avenues which shall be opened to us by means of commerce and trade, scatter the seeds of democracy in every nook and dark corner of the globe and thus hasten the day when the sun shall never rise upon the palace of a King, nor set upon the hovel of a slave.

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### Senator Dolliver's Patriotism

Sam M. Greene, Los Angeles: I'm so glad the Webster county Bar history finally got along to J. P. Dolliver, for he was one of the real heroes of Iowa politics. The way he broke loose from the old reactionaries that had him lassoed, and spoke for himself, was one of the finest acts of patriotism I have ever known. He had much to lose, and not much to gain for sure, except self-respect and loyalty to high ideals; but he took the step, and if he had not died he would have risen much higher.

# ANDREW MULHOLLAND, alias GEORGE WILSON

By H. J. MANTZ  
*Justice, Iowa Supreme Court*

Some years following the turn of the century, a situation arose in western Iowa, which was packed with dramatic incidents. Courts were resorted to and litigation followed. The facts and chain of events, their ramifications, the period of time covered, all combined to create a sort of human drama, which well might be set forth in a novel. The chain of events started a few years prior to the Civil war, and did not terminate until about the end of the first quarter of the present century. To some of the events the writer was an eye witness. He secured some information from court records, some from the principal actor, and some from those who were associated with him in the incidents which fit into the pattern of what took place.

After the litigation, and as we sometimes say "the dust had settled," we could appraise the situation—human nature, sometimes at its best, at times at its worst, and often in reverse. Out of the events and incidents giving rise to the situation, the matters involved came into view and exhibited the gamut of human emotions—the hopes and fears, the cupidity, avarice, depravity, selfishness, greed and unlicensed desire to gain. All of this was shown and exhibited during the cycle of life of the main actor therein, a man who started out as Andrew Mulholland, then was George Wilson, and then by court decree about fifty years later again became Andrew Mulholland.

To obtain a correct view of what took place the background is illuminating and important.

Shortly following the Civil war there came into a rural community in eastern Iowa a stranger seeking employment. He gave his name as George Wilson. He

was about thirty years of age, was small and wiry and walked with a slight limp. He had no relatives in that community. He secured a job on a farm; was a good worker and readily made friends. He said little of his past, but did say that he was a soldier in the Union army, and that he had been wounded at Gettysburg. He was diligent and willing, seldom left his job, and saved his earnings. He told some folks that at one time he had worked as a blacksmith. He liked to work with livestock and was particularly fond of horses. He was quite a talker and soon became known among his acquaintances as "Senator Wilson." However, he never talked of his past, save that he was born in Pennsylvania.

#### THE IOWA COUNTRY INVITING

About the year 1881 the writer, with his parents, went to western Iowa, then largely a prairie country, where land was cheap and soil fertile and productive. The railroad had just come in and many came to acquire and cultivate the rich, productive land. The fall following, Wilson came in on horseback to father's farm. He was riding a fine young mare and the two seemed to be close companions. He stayed a few days and then announced that he had purchased a forty-acre tract from the railroad company, about fifteen miles from where we lived. He built himself a small house, broke the prime sod and went to farming. He rented other land. A few years later he bought eighty acres adjoining. What buildings he had on the forty acres were built near the highway. His habits of talking did not change and soon the neighbors were referring to him as "Senator." He never objected to the appellation. It was noticed, however, that at times he had a propensity to drink, what the neighbors called "hard liquor," but never even under its cheering influence, did he speak of his past.

In the vicinity there lived a farm couple who had about a dozen children, nine boys and three girls, all grown. But one was married, the oldest girl. It was



one big family and all lived under the same roof. While the old folks owned quite a lot of land, they did little farming, renting out some of the land and pasturing stock. They lived a sort of nomad life occasionally taking off in two or three covered wagons, hunting, fishing and seeing the country, but always returning for winter. The boys always had a lot of dogs, usually coon dogs and wolf hounds. They would bring corn and grain to town and customarily the dogs were along. At night we could hear the wagons on the home with the "music" of the coon dogs quite evident. Old timers and coon dog enthusiasts say that catching coons is not so important—that they like to hear the "music" (barking) of the dogs as they follow the trail.

The oldest of the three girls married a farmer near where the "senator" lived, and a sister visiting became acquainted with him and a few years later they were married. No children were born to them. She passed away before he did.

The year prior to his marriage one evening in summer, Wilson went to the home of his neighbor just across the road. He seemed to be scared and excited and was much agitated. That afternoon the neighbor had seen three people, two men and a woman, ride by on horseback on the highway. Said Wilson to the neighbor, "Did you see those three riders?" "Yes." "Did you know them?" "No." "Did they stop?" "No." "Do you think they saw me?" "Don't know." Wilson then asked, "What are you and the boys doing tomorrow? I have decided to move my buildings and house back from the road; can you help me move?" "Sure, we can help you out."

Pursuant to request the next day the neighbor with three of his sons went to the Wilson place. They placed skids under the house, barn and granary. Teams were attached and Wilson said he wanted the buildings moved to the "back forty," over a half mile back from the road. Wilson made no explanation,

simply saying he wanted it done. While the neighbors wondered, still the full significance of this move did not stand revealed until about a third of a century later.

#### SECLUDED ON THE "BACK FORTY"

Wilson and Anna were married and for many years lived down on the "back forty." They did not take a very active part in the community life. Wilson seldom went to town and his wife did practically all the hauling. Her family had later moved to an adjoining county and bought up a lot of land, a large part of which was timbered. They still had their hounds and roved about. All the boys and the other daughter remained unmarried. A few years before Anna died she and her husband followed her people into the other county and bought a rough, gullied and timbered farm. They still kept the old farm of 120 acres.

About the turn of the century Anna passed away. Her husband continued to live on the farm, but did not seem to get along very well with her folks. While the sons were not drinking men, they felt and said that "George is a hard drinker, he spends too much for liquor." George, in turn, called the family a bunch of gypsies, loafers and dog chasers. So the breach between George and his wife's people became wide and deep.

George kept on drinking, while the sons kept dogs (twenty-five at times) and wandered and roamed. A few years later the sons purchased a merry-go-round and set up at fairs and other public gatherings. As they did all the work and spent little, they naturally accumulated quite a lot of property. All property was taken in the name of Schmidt Bros. One of them later told the writer that the last one was to "have it all." He said they had no writing to that effect, but that "all of them understood it."

Following the death of his wife, George made trips to the cities, and while there would frequently put in time at drinking places and usually roomed at what

might be called "flop houses." He did not return very often to the neighborhood where he first started. In time he got out of touch with old neighbors. He had no one locally to look after the farm—it was rented and the renter saw little of George.

Late one fall the tenant announced that he would have to move; that he had a letter sent from Omaha to that effect. What purported to be Wilson's signature was scrawled at the end. Some time later some folks came upon the premises, looked it over and said they wanted to rent it. A woman among them said that she owned the farm and that Wilson had deeded it to her. The tenant and some neighbors asked the whereabouts of Wilson, but got little information from any of the people. They asked her name and where she lived and got that information from her. She said Wilson had for a time stayed at her home, and that after he deeded the land to her he left and they had not seen him since.

#### SEEKING TRACE OF WILSON

The suspicions of the neighbor were aroused. He made inquiries of people who lived near where Wilson lived and they had not seen him for months. Upon inquiry he found where Wilson did his banking, and there was told that some months before, Wilson had visited the bank and withdrawn all of his bank account; that he came there with some people who did not enter the bank. Among them they said was a woman and her description seemed to fit the woman who claimed to be the owner.

The neighbor at once consulted a lawyer and told him what he knew. He felt there was something wrong—possibly foul play. He suggested that the lawyer investigate. With very little to start on the lawyer stated that he would try. He investigated the place where Wilson had stayed in the city and found from the police that it had an unsavory reputation. It was reported that men would go there, get drunk and

were robbed and some would disappear and others were run out of the country.

#### DRINKING ATTRACTED DISSOLUTE MEN

By that time the deed to the 120 acres was put on record and upon examination it was found to be dated about the same time the funds were withdrawn from the bank. They looked up the alleged notary who had acknowledged or witnessed the deed and he seemed unwilling to discuss the matter. The police were called in and they advised trying to find Wilson. They found a couple of men who were drinking companions of Wilson and they said Wilson told them he was in a jam with the rooming house people and that he did not feel safe in staying any longer. He told them that somehow these folks had found out something of his past and threatened to inform against him and that he might go to prison; that working on his fears and by threats they had forced him to deed them his property, got his bank account and left him only enough money to get out of the country; that he was leaving to start over again; that when a young man he had worked in the harvest fields of North Dakota and he felt that he would be safe there.

The next day one of these men detailed a friend to go to the depot and be on the lookout for Wilson. That evening he returned and reported that the woman who ran the rooming house and a couple of tough looking men came to the depot with Wilson, bought him a ticket, stayed with him all the time; that he acted like a man in a daze and that they put him on a train headed for the northwest. Upon inquiry at the ticket office the attorney was told that the ticket sold was for Minot, N.D. As this had happened months before it looked like a difficult task to locate the missing man.

The lawyer went to Minot and tried to discover some trace—he inquired of employment offices, threshing crews, also at cheap rooming houses. At one of the latter he found several who described a man who seemed to be the missing man—the age, general ap-



pearance and demeanor, led the lawyer to believe he had found a trace. He was told that the man came back for a time or two later, said little except that he had worked in a harvest field with a threshing crew, but that it was hard for him on account of his age. He also said that an old wound which he got while in the Union army in the battle of Gettysburg bothered him. With this the lawyer felt sure they were on the right track.

#### LOCATED THE MISSING MAN

Later he found where the man had worked and was told that such a man was then living in an old shack down along the river. That he was seldom about and one said, "I don't see how he lives." The attorney did not know the missing man. He wired the old neighbor to come up to be sure of the identity. He came at once and he and the lawyer went out to the shack. It was in a rugged country covered largely by small trees and brush, and there was no habitation near. The lawyer went to the door while the neighbor stayed at the car. A knock at the door got no response—a louder knock and a voice inside inquired, "Who's there—what do you want?" "I'm looking for George Wilson." "He is not here—I'm not George Wilson, go away and don't bother me." The lawyer said, "I want to see you and talk to you. I've got a man who wants you."

"My God! they are still after me after fifty years. I might as well give myself up; I'm an old man so it won't matter so much." The lawyer motioned the neighbor, who came and called, "George, open the door, it's your old neighbor; we are here to help you and to get you out of trouble. We are here to help."

Wilson opened the door to the shack and stood there shaking and unsettled. In the shack was an old mat for sleeping, a battered stove, a little table and scanty furnishings. Wilson stood there pale, haggard and emaciated.—a picture of utter hopelessness and despair. As the neighbor moved forward he stuck out

his hand, "George, George." Wilson looked and said, "Fred, may God bless you—I am just about finished—about finished." Fred said, "Get ready, George; we are going back; we will get your land back so that you can lead a different life." Wilson said "If I go back those folks will send me to prison; they dug up my past and I can't face it."

The lawyer inquired, "When and where did you get into trouble and what was it?" "Back a few years after the Civil war I lived in the eastern part of Iowa; I was a blacksmith; while there a gang of robbers were in hiding there. In a robbery they committed a murder; one of them was killed and the other went to prison for life. They thought I had something to do with it, and I left my wife and baby girl, changed my name and got out."

The lawyer said, "If what you did was a crime, which I doubt, under the law it is outlawed; you could not be prosecuted now for that." Wilson staggered to the old cot, sat down and buried his wan and withered face in his hands, "My God, my God, after all these years—I suffered fears and terrors—afraid to go—waiting for the law to take me in. I'll go, don't let me down or go back on me." He rose to his feet and said, "I'm ready to go; I have nothing to take along. I'll tell you about it when we get out of here. The old shack and what is in it can go—I'm through with it. Fred, you will have to take care of me until I get my property back."

#### FEAR HAD CAUSED HIS TROUBLES

As they made the trip back he seemed like a changed man. He told them he was an orphan, of his early life; that his true name was Andrew Mulholland; that he was in the Union army and was wounded at Gettysburg; that we went to a river town in Iowa and had a blacksmith shop and was doing very well; that he married a local girl and they had a little girl; then came on the murder, and as he had shod the horses for the bandits he heard threats and decided to leave;

changed his name to George Wilson and went to another part of the state and started over.

"One thing that scared me was that my wife's people threatened to kill me on sight for leaving my wife and child," he said. "I knew you in the old location; you and others went to western Iowa and I decided to go there too. I rode out there on horseback and stayed the first night with Sam Mantz, whom I had known in the eastern part of the state; then as George Wilson I bought the farm across the road; that was before I married Anna. Do you remember of me getting you and the boys to help move the buildings way back from the road?"

Fred said, "Yes, I remember it; never could understand why." "Well, I'll tell you," continued George. "Those three people who rode past my place that day were my wife and two of her brothers. I wanted to call to her, but their threats to kill me wouldn't let me. Oh! if I had called; maybe she would still be living and we would know of our girl. Years later I thought of trying to locate her, but I was afraid. Then I married Anna. We lived together for many years. She used to ask about my people, but I had to lie to her—there was the old fear."

"Then I took to drinking, more and more," he related. "I would go to the city, and many a drunken orgy I went through. I went to Omaha and got a room in a cheap rooming house. Later they somehow found out my past. Two or three men threatened to inform on me—to turn me in. I was scared. Finally, they told me if I would make a deed to my property to the woman that ran the place and turned over to them my bank account, and then would leave the country, nothing further would be done. One day a man claiming to be a detective came to the house with a telegram asking if a man going under the name of George Wilson was there and saying he was wanted for a crime committed in another part of the state."

"I was paralyzed with fear and finally decided to

do as these folks wanted. The woman brought me a deed, had me sign it, and then went with me to the bank and got my money. I was forced to stay at their home until a few days later they took me to the depot and gave me a ticket to Minot, N.D. They gave me \$25.00, and told me if I ever came back, or said a word, I'd be sorry."

When they got back to Iowa the lawyer promptly brought suit to recover the land. They sued the woman who claimed it by deed. The two men who got the bank account could not be found. When the case was tried the woman claimed that the deed was to satisfy damages against Wilson for having immoral relations with her before the deed. This she brazenly urged. In the trial the truth came out and it was shown that the woman was one of low repute, was unchaste and had sustained questionable relations with other men; also, that she had a criminal record, had frequently been in police court and that many of those who came to the place were shady and disreputable characters.

#### NAME AND PROPERTY RESTORED

As a witness, Wilson told of his life, his true name and his experience with the people whom the court characterized as criminals and blackmailers. The money was gone, but the real estate was restored to Wilson. The court ordered that he assume and go by his true name, Andrew Mulholland, and appointed a guardian for his property. The guardian (the writer) made application for a pension for him as a Civil war veteran. It was granted. Later Mulholland found some relatives—two grand nephews who lived in eastern Iowa. With them he spent his last years; every effort was made to find the daughter. She was traced to within about ten years of the time of the trouble. When last heard of she was in Minneapolis and Andrew thought that if living she might be in a convent. Inquiries at various convents revealed nothing.

About three years later Mulholland came to Audu-



bon, and while talking with the guardian said that he would like to join the G.A.R. The local post had been inactive for years. The guardian hunted up three or four of the post members still living and Andrew joined as the last and final member. As the old grizzled veterans went through the solemn ritual out under a large shade tree, Mulholland's eyes brightened, and after they administered the veteran's oath and shook his hand, he said: "What I have missed; comrades, comrades, I am now one of you!"

But they did not have the bronze button to pin on his lapel. At that time the National Encampment of the G.A.R. was meeting in Des Moines, and the guardian took Andrew and another veteran to attend. He was taken to the statehouse and there at the G.A.R. state headquarters he was given a veteran's bronze button and proudly fastened it to his coat. The last time the guardian saw Andrew Mulholland, or George Wilson, if you please, he was standing in the rotunda of the state capitol looking at the draped battle flags, with one hand pressing and rubbing the little bronze button.

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## Origin of Name Wisconsin

The state of Iowa originally being largely carved from the area comprising Wisconsin territory, interest locally attaches to the current discussion in that state concerning the derivation and meaning of the name of our neighboring commonwealth. The last word upon the subject is gleaned from the 1951 edition of the *Encyclopedia Americana*, written by no less a personage than Dr. Wilcox, librarian of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. He says:

"The name Wisconsin, first spelled Miskonsing then Ouisconsin by the French, was derived from the Indian name for the principal river of the region and is usually interpreted to mean 'gathering of the waters.'"

# Davenport House\*

By SHIRLEY MESCHER

There are many houses like Davenport's "Clifton." They are old and picturesque, regarded by children as "haunted houses" and by grown-ups as imaginative settings for early pioneer history. If houses may be said to have character, they are such, having existed through the rise of cities and the collapse of fortunes.

These homes may not be exactly as they were in the steamboat and parasol days, but the rustle of silk and toot of whistles still whirr in a comfortable, ghostly fashion around their ornate colonnades and mahogany staircases. No matter how modernistic the present furnishings, the 12-foot ceilings, coal burning fireplaces, and crystal chandeliers bespeak another age and other men's stories.

Such a house is "Clifton," known today as the Davenport House. The 100-year-old colonial mansion, which was the first of its kind in the early history of Davenport, was built on a wooded bluff high above the Mississippi by J. M. D. Burrows, who is referred to in the city's annals as Davenport's first merchant prince.

"Clifton's" story is the story of J. M. D. Burrows.

Mr. Burrows was a pioneer businessman whose efforts, success, and even failures contributed immeasurably to the establishment of Davenport as one of the chief market points and industrial centers in the Mississippi Valley. Mr. Burrows came to pioneer Davenport in 1838, when the little river village had a population of about 150, with 15 houses, and had been for

\* Miss Mescher based this narrative on interviews with Mrs. Wilma Brown, Waldo Winter, Parke Burrows, and on notes from *Fifty Years of Iowa* by J. M. D. Burrows, and the latter's obituary in *Davenport Times*, April 11, 1889—a colorful bit of history, pointing out the significance of this structure in its contribution to both pioneer and modern Davenport.—Editor.

only six years an actual part of United States property through the Black Hawk purchase.

In the years that followed, his grocery store on Frist (Front) Street between Brady and Ripley expanded into an embryo department store. He established the first packing plant in the city which developed into the largest west of St. Louis. In 1847, he began manufacturing flour under the commercial name "Albion Mills." In 1852-53, two million 18-inch bricks went into the construction of a new building on the levee to house the Burrows and Prettyman store, a new mill, and his home, "Clifton." By 1856 John McDowell Burrows was the wealthiest man in Davenport.

But in the financial panic of the year that followed, he lost every material thing he owned. "Clifton" went with the store, the packing plant, and the flour mill.

Mr. Burrows tells in simple language the story of the loss in his book *Fifty Years of Iowa*:

About this time, Ebenezer Cook came to me and said they were very much in need of money; that he would endorse my note for 20 thousand. Le Claire had promised to do so if I would give him a mortgage on my beautiful home, "Clifton."

I said: "I cannot do that, Mr. Cook; that is my *home*."

Cook repeated his visits, however, and "Clifton" was sold. Mr. Burrows makes no further reference to the house in his book. He was never able to regain it, and died in 1889, after continuing in his milling business, unabashed by two subsequent burnings of the mill. The obituary, in accordance with the times, referred to the personal qualities of the man, and mention of "Clifton" indicates the prominence of the house in Burrow's life and that of Davenport history:

John McDowell Burrows is dead. A man of big heart, of honest impulses, of deathless energy,—one who for 50 years has been actively and thoroughly identified with Davenport, is no more. . . . He was good—a cheerful man, the best of husbands, tenderest of fathers—who loved his neighbor as himself, whose charities at times outlived his means, whose public spirit and benevolence was like the breath he drew. . . .

Beneath the bluff he built a snug cottage; beneath the

eminence upon which he built the finest mansion in the country "Clifton," where he hoped to spend long useful years. . . .

After the house passed out of Mr. Burrows hands, it was bought by George L. Davenport, and remained in the Davenport family for twenty-five years.

For another twenty-five, it was vacant, virtually a forgotten monument with weeds reaching up at least five feet beyond the bases of the two-story porch columns, the Ionic capitals of which Mr. Burrows had carved himself.

In those days, John Winter was just another small boy who raided the apple orchard which sloped downhill in front of the old house. But whenever the gang made a trip to the orchard, John spent more time admiring the deserted house than helping with the "harvest." The picture of "Clifton" which he carried away with him was an enduring one and in 1907, John Winter bought the house.

Today, "Clifton" still retains the beauty—and perhaps additional beauty by virtue of its age—which it possessed when the *Democrat* referred to it as "the finest mansion in the country." The original structure has been altered mainly in the addition of two second story wings. The house was originally shaped like a three-tier cake, the top tier being the tower room, a 20' by 20' room walled on four sides with windows. Legend has it that the tower room was used as an observation point in watching for escaped slaves making their way to Canada via barge during the days of the underground railroad.

But the floor length windows, carrara marble fireplaces—originally thirteen, now nine,—crystal chandeliers, heavy woodwork, mahogany staircase, and two-story porch columns still retain the dignity and majesty of the original house. The size of the estate when "Clifton" was first built included twenty acres of Davenport's present residential district, from Telegraph Road to Twelfth Street. The property now covers a little over an acre.

Flanked by homes of more modern design, "Clifton"



still remains one of the show places of Davenport. It has been used as a setting for Octave Thanet's novel *The Man of the Hour*, and a sketch of the house is drawn on the wall of the *Times* cafeteria in downtown Davenport. Most important, however, "Clifton" is once again a home—this time of four families.

Can a historical landmark still fulfill the requirements of a comfortable home? The answer to that question can only be obtained from those who live there. The answer would seem to be "yes."

The old Burrows mansion is now under the care of John Winter's wife, son, and daughter, and has been converted into apartments, two on each story. Mrs. John Winter, Mrs. Wilma Brown (Wilma Winter), and the latter's ten-year-old son, Davey, live in one of the downstairs apartments. Mr. and Mrs. Waldo Winter live upstairs. The other two apartments are also rented out.

Does living in the old house acquire the feeling of living in a museum? Not to them. Yes, it is an unusual house. The Winters keep a scrap book of its history and are constantly on the look out for more information about the past of "Clifton," but life in the big house at 1533 Clay street is perfectly natural.

Children Davey's age, passing his home, refer to it as the "haunted house," but Davey just laughs and parks his bicycle against one of the huge columns on the cement veranda. From there stretches a full view of the Mississippi river as it enters Davenport between wooded hills and continues through the city, most of which J. M. D. Burrows never knew, but which he helped to give existence and prominence.

Would he have approved the present state of "Clifton?" Almost assuredly, he would have. Clifton House, like the man who planned it, is still one of Davenport's "firsts." We can be sure that he wanted them both—the city and the house—to thrive.

## “The Nation Uses Iowa Brains”

A notable list of Iowa men and women who were filling positions of honor and trust outside the state in 1884, was given by the *Des Moines News* in a late December issue. The article appeared under the above heading, and reads:

Quite a number of Iowa men drew considerable prizes in the lottery of politics at the recent election. Mr. John Campbell, a well known young Iowan formerly residing at Osceola, and now located at Colorado Springs, was elected a member of the Colorado legislature; Major J. A. Pickler, another Iowa gentleman prominent in the Nineteenth General Assembly as a member from Muscatine county, was chosen a member of the Dakota legislature; and many other gentlemen remembered as Iowans have this year won senatorships, judgeships, and other honors in various states of the West and Northwest.

Indeed, it is quite remarkable how successful Iowa people are in other states not only in politics, but in journalism, law, medicine, science, art, literature, theology and business. At New York, Iowa is represented in journalism of the higher sort by Col. John H. Wallace, editor of *Wallace's Monthly*; and until recently in law by John F. Dillon. At Philadelphia, our George F. Parker writes strong editorials for the *Times*, the leading paper. At Washington, there is a profusion of Iowa brains, Stilson Hutchins honoring the state in journalism, Prof. C. E. White in science and a host of others in various capacities.

Among the former Iowans at Chicago are the eloquent divine, Dr. H. W. Thomas, the talented journalist, Mrs. Elizabeth Boynton Harbert, the well-known musicians, Mr. H. S. Perkins and Mr. John Woollett, Miss Mary McCowen, the noted teacher of the deaf mutes, and many other active and distinguished workers. At St. Louis, Iowa is honored in the person of

Prof. Frank E. Nipher, a scientist of Hawkeye training. New Orleans has among its successful journalists Mr. Judson of the *Times-Democrat*, a man reared in Iowa and who does not forget his old home. California is now entertained by the pungent and characteristic writings of Iowa's one and only John P. Irish, who edits an Oakland paper. Colorado took up Mr. J. C. Helm, an Iowa man only eight years from an Iowa law school, and placed him on its supreme bench, a position which he is filling with an ability worthy of the pride of his friends.

The young novelist, Mr. E. W. Howe, of Atchison, Kansas, whose "Story of a Country Town" M. W. D. Howells pronounces one of the best novels of the year, used to live at Council Bluffs. Nebraska has just taken Professor Bessey and placed him in the chair of science of its state university. Judge Ghost, of the same state, is an Iowa man. Missouri for several years has enjoyed the benefit of the vast learning of Chancellor Hammond, now a teacher of law at Washington university, St. Louis. Michigan importuned Iowa for the services of Professor Cowperthwaite until that distinguished physician, teacher and author was obliged to divide his time between the state universities of the two states.

Ohio has recently drawn on Iowa for Dr. E. K. Young, a man who is an Iowan all over, and the graduate of an Iowa College, while in journalism it borrowed from Iowa Mr. Emerson Hough, who went from Des Moines to Sandusky to work on the staff of a leading newspaper. Pennsylvania, not satisfied with robbing us of one of our brainiest newspaper men, appropriated Dr. Abbie Cleaves, perhaps the most distinguished of our many able lady physicians, now in high official position in Harrisburg. Minneapolis has become the home of Prof. Proctor, a fine musical instructor, formerly of Des Moines; Mr. Chas. A. Bishop, a brilliant young lawyer, who made a splendid record in the Iowa legislature two years ago as a member from Blackhawk county; and of S. B. Howard, formerly editor of the

*Iowa City Republican*. Dakota is alive with Iowa men and women of the best type, Judge Seward Smith, Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Cook, of the *Mitchell Republican*, Captain Lucas, Mr. W. T. Love, Captain Humphrey, of the *Faulkton Times*, Mr. E. T. Cressey, of the *Huron Leader*, Robert Lowry and a hundred others being a tower of strength to that great territory, There has been a countless exodus, of brainy young journalists from Iowa lately: Adam Bishop, a Washington county boy, going to the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, the Goshorns, of Stuart and Winterset, emigrating to Nebraska to run weekly papers and run them well, Horace L. Wood, a sprightly Iowa City writer, who won his spurs in college journalism, doing up the news for the *Leadville Democrat* while the state points with pride to scores of others in various localities.

Even Texas has its contingent of Iowa men. New Mexico honors as a leading citizen Mr. Frank Springer, son of Judge Springer, a citizen of Columbus Junction. Arkansas, has from Iowa a Clay Caldwell and many more. Oregon has among its rising young journalists Cassius M. Coe, of Iowa's best. And to make a long story short, we may assert with confidence that there is hardly a state from Maine to California to which Iowa has not contributed of its best brain.

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### The Absent One

Tonight I sat before an altar high  
Brighter than any work of human hands.  
From faintly glinting censers, swinging low,  
Thin spiral threads of smoke ascending slow  
Faded into the vaulted darkness overhead.  
From some unseen choir, far away, there came  
Thin voices bearing melodies not of earth.  
From these, the sanctuary, the lights, the music faint  
There came a peace as though some fair hand  
With tender touch had smoothed my aching brow,  
And wiped away the cumbering cares of day.  
The miracle was Thine; through many miles  
Thy thought, Thy love had reached and brought  
To me warm consolation to a hungry heart.

—Ernest R. Moore, Cedar Rapids



# Grave of a Pawnee Chief

By O. J. PRUITT

*Curator Pottawattamie County Historical Society*

I am privileged to quote from a private letter written by Charles L. Kelsey, Balboa, California, under date of August 30, 1951. He resided at Missouri Valley, Iowa, for many years. The informative portion reads:

Wish I had thought to have told you about the Pawnee chief found in a sitting position on the high point of the hill directly above and north of Mr. Epperson's new house on the highway just out of town. This find was by George H. and Harold Culavin and their father, of Missouri Valley.

The skeleton was accompanied by a flint spear point, some arrowheads and drilled bear claws, and a short, rusty, iron tube, thought to have been a gun. Also, there were two tiny infant's skeletons, wrapped in what appeared to have been some kind of hide.

Dr. Keyes happened to be in the vicinity at the time, and on hearing about it, he examined the find and in my presence gave George \$5.00 for the exceptionally tall Indian's bones, which George had in a bushel basket on the back porch.

Confirmation of Mr. Kelsey's statements may be found in the Geology of Harrison and Monona counties, by Prof. Bohimel Shimick, (1913), pp. 413-414. His description of the find and the material excavated was as follows:

A particularly interesting mound was carefully examined by Mr. George H. Culavin of Missouri Valley. It was discovered on the ridge north of the entrance to Snyders Hollow about eighty-five feet above the valley, and contained the skeleton of an adult male and parts of skeletons of two children.

The large skeleton, which is now in the collection of the State University, was buried in a sitting or reclining posture, facing toward the south. The skull was about three feet below the surface, and above it, evidently intended for protection, was a layer of much decayed bur oak sticks and small logs, some of them reaching more than six inches in diameter. Mussel-shells were found in the upper stratum, and

fragments were also strewn on the slope near the mound. The skeleton is almost complete and evidently belonged to an individual whose height exceeded six feet. The limb bones were long and rather slender, like those which are commonly found in the mounds of this region. The right forearm was crippled as the radius was broken and the ends failed to unite. The skull is in fine condition, and contains teeth which are remarkably regular and perfect, though somewhat worn with age.

Various articles of interest accompanied the skeleton. There were two pipestone pipes; more than two dozen perforated bony cores of bears' claws, which evidently formed a necklace; a bone scraper; a mass of ochre which was so shaped and situated that it had evidently been carried at the belt in front in a pouch; a badly rusted tube, which probably formed the barrel of a short rifle or long pistol; a wooden key of some musical string instrument with flattened head and wrapped with flattened wire; several small hawk-bells; a flint arrowhead; flattened copper tubes—probably bangles; a mink's skull and two smaller skulls—probably belonging to the weasel; the lower mandible of a large bird; and various unidentifiable metallic fragments.

The Indian graves that I opened in the vicinity were Cherokee and Sioux. All of the "wheel burials" were Cherokee. This was not only my opinion, but also that of Fred Yocum of Logan, and A. V. Jensen of Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Some skulls from the Bone valley, much older than the above find, one mile north of Missouri Valley, Iowa, on the farm of Amand McIntosh, were sent to Washington, D.C., to Dr. Alex Hedlicka for classification. He said they were Iowa Sioux, and since so many of the forty-odd skulls were adult female, the moot question arose as to the cause of demise. The bones were water-strewn and exposed in a ditch for one hundred yards. Mr. Kelsey was the discoverer.

The St. John creek flowing north into the Boyer river had exposed numerous other skulls, which boys with target rifles had burst in practice shooting.

Incidentally, it was from the sands in this creek that Jack DeWitt and the writer panned some very fine flower gold. The samples of this gold are to be seen in a vial in the Pottawattamie county Log Cabin Museum.

## Iowans in National Statuary Hall

Absence of essential data as to representative Iowans officially designated and assigned to positions in the National Statuary Hall at Washington, D.C., recently occasioned research upon this subject by the ANNALS editor, the results of which merit definite recording.

It was by an act of congress on July 2, 1864, that the president of the United States was authorized to invite all the states to provide statues, not to exceed two in each state, "of deceased persons who had been citizens thereof and illustrious for their historic renown or for distinguished civic or military service," to make such designation and present to the government these marble or bronze statues.

In line with this action the old house chamber in the national capitol was reserved for this purpose and renamed the National Statuary Hall. It is a semi-circular room 96 feet in diameter, extended on the flat side by a colonnaded bay. During occupancy from 1807 to 1857 as the house of representatives chamber, the accoustics were found to be faulty, and to smother reverberations great curtains were hung between the columns on the south side.

In this historic hall Madison and Monroe were inaugurated presidents. Here John Quincy Adams was elected president, and here this aged ex-president was stricken with paralysis during a roll call in 1848, dying at his post of duty, a metal plate in the floor marking the spot where he fell. Due to over-crowding, some of the numerous statues of statesmen and other notables were removed later to the Hall of Columns, which serves as a monumental foyer to the south portal of the capitol, also to the several principal floor corridors and elsewhere.

Compliance by Iowa with the president's request was somewhat tardy. Finally provision was made at separate times for the statues of Samuel J. Kirkwood and James Harlan, stalwart early Iowans, to repre-

sent the state in bronze in this capacity, funds being appropriated for that purpose. The Thirty-first General Assembly authorized the moulding of the statue for Kirkwood, and Governor Cummins signed the act April 5, 1906. The Thirty-second General Assembly followed suit by naming James Harlan for the second honor, the signing of this act, also by Governor Cummins, occurring March 20, 1907, the operation of the amendment to the state constitution providing for biennial elections bringing the two sessions of the legislature in consecutive years. No other Iowans were seriously considered for these honors, then regarded so well deserved by these two distinguished Hawkeye statesmen.

Kirkwood's outstanding service to the state and nation was acknowledged, beginning with aggressive leadership in the Iowa senate in 1856, then as governor in 1860-64 during the Civil war period, and again in 1875-77, following his term in the United States senate in 1865-67. He was described by James G. Blaine as "a man of truth, courage and devoted to love of country; distinguished for comprehensive intelligence, for clear foresight, for persuasive speech, for spotless integrity, for thorough acquaintance with the people; he was a model of efficiency."

When the legislature voted to issue \$800,000 in bonds to carry on Iowa's part in the war, only \$300,000 was expended, so strict and careful was his practice of economy, as the state's executive. Favoring the nomination and election of Lincoln, he was urged by John A. Kasson, though he did not need the letter of the latter, saying: "Pray be at Chicago, if possible, to aid and influence the indiscreet by your counsel." Taking his seat first in the United States senate in 1865, he succeeded James Harlan, who had resigned to take a seat in President Lincoln's cabinet as secretary of the Interior. Following his last term in the United States senate, 1877-81, he was appointed by President Garfield as secretary of the Interior, serving only a short time



as such in 1881-82, and then resigned. The bronze statue of him standing in the National Statuary Hall is the work of an Iowa sculptress—Vinnie Ream Hoxie.

The high tribute paid to the memory of James Harlan, likewise was well deserved. First prominent in Iowa as an educator, he was elected as its first superintendent of public instruction over Charles Mason, the first chief justice of the supreme court. He at once put into operation a sound and efficient school system, and established wise procedure in the handling of the state's school lands and educational funds.

Mr. Harlan was president of Iowa Wesleyan university at Mount Pleasant, in 1853; served as United States senator from Iowa from 1855 to 1865, and returned to the senate from the president's cabinet, serving from 1867-73; appointed by President Lincoln as secretary of the Interior just prior to the assassination of the latter, and his daughter Mary married Robert T. Lincoln. The statue provided as a memorial to the public life of Senator Harlan was first executed in clay and then in bronze, by Nellie V. Walker of Chicago, and occupying its place at the national capitol, reflects the signal honor conferred by his state.

Art is said to look to posterity for its approval. Should these statues endure, citizens of the remote future, if interested in these outstanding representations of the great men of Iowa and other commonwealths, will search the records and literature of the state's past, as well as the nation, wherein these men, with their own hands and deeds wrote the measure of their greatness. These statues, like monuments erected by admiring neighbors and a grateful people, symbolize the tributes of a state in recognition of the eminence of the attainments of those thus honored.

## “Hawkeye” the Nickname for Iowans

The individual originally called “Hawkeye” was a white man, not an Indian, either brave or chief, although so credited by some. It was a nickname applied to early settlers of the Iowa district long after its first appearance in American literature as that of a heroic character given imperishable renown by J. Fenimore Cooper in *The Last of the Mohicans*, the most popular of his “Leather Stocking Tales.” They were published in America beginning in 1826, and later in England, and created a furor in British and French literary circles, where the character of the American Indian was a novelty.

According to Cooper’s story, the Delaware Indians bestowed the name of “Hawkeye” upon a white scout and trapper, who lived and hunted with them, who also braved their perils in war against the Iroquois and Hurons. The incidents related by Cooper “occurred during the third year of the war which England and France last waged for the possession of a country that neither was destined to retain.” Of himself the scout said: “I am the man that got the name Nathaniel from my kin; the compliment of ‘Hawkeye’ from the Delawares, and whom the Iroquois have presumed to style ‘Long Rifle.’”

Twelve years after the publication of Cooper’s book, Iowa and its people, in 1838, acquired the sobriquet “Hawkeye,” through suggestion and publicity by Judge David Rorer of Burlington, a scholarly and cultured man of literary attainments, assisted by James G. Edwards, the talented and alert editor of the *Fort Madison Patriot*, who in 1843 moved his paper to Burlington and changed its name to the *Burlington Hawkeye*. Subsequently frequent references to Iowa as the “Hawkeye State” were made in the paper at the suggestion of Judge Rorer. This was done to popularize the nickname and to prevent citizens of other states giving Iowa a more opprobrious title, similar to that

by which the people of Missouri are frequently designated even to this day. The judge wrote a series of lively letters to other Iowa papers signed "A Wolverine Among the Hawkeyes," referring Iowans thus, which were widely read, quoted and commented upon.

The nickname received formal approval at a meeting of prominent state officials and others who gathered at the rooms of Governor Lucas in the Burlington House in the fall of 1838. Among those present besides Lucas were: W. B. Conway, territorial secretary; Ver Planck Van Antwerp, receiver of public moneys; Joseph Williams, supreme court justice; T. S. Parvin and Jesse Williams, secretaries and aides of the governor, and James G. Edwards. The matter of perpetuating a nickname for Iowa was discussed. After various sobriquets were mentioned, "Hawkeye" was proposed and all agreed upon its appropriateness.

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## Burlington Rated Several "Firsts"

The city of Burlington has a distinguished place, not only in the early history of the state of Iowa, but also in the history of the settlement of the Middle West as a whole. Long before it became a white man's town, it had been an Indian center and for that reason became at a very early time an important trading-post.

After the Middle West began to be organized, the area in which Burlington stood belonged to the vast territory of Michigan; and when a large portion of the latter was cut off to form the territory of Wisconsin the whole of Iowa was included in it.

Wisconsin held its first territorial legislature in 1836, at Belmont, and during its sessions Madison was selected as the first capital. But the necessary public buildings at Madison were not completed—they could not be until 1839—therefore the new legislature met at Burlington, the first meeting on November 6, 1837, the second on June 11, 1838. Thus it was that Burlington became for a brief period the capital of a territory,

out of which the states of Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and North and South Dakota later were carved.

For such reasons it was historically fitting that the first Masonic lodge in the territory of what is now the state of Iowa should be organized in Burlington. Theodore Parvin described the event at length and in detail in an article contributed by him in *The Evergreen Magazine*, in 1868, which was only three years after the end of the Civil war.—H. L. Haywood in *Masonic Grand Lodge Bulletin*.

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### Jefferson Advocated Economy

I place economy among the first and most important virtues, and public debt as the greatest of dangers to be feared. To preserve our independence, we must not let our rulers load us with perpetual debt. We must make our choice between economy and liberty, or profusion and servitude. If we run into such debts we must be taxed in our meat and drink, in our necessities and in our comforts, in our labors and in our amusements. If we can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of caring for them, they will be happy. The same prudence which in private life would forbid our paying our money for unexplained projects, forbids it in the disposition of public money.—Thomas Jefferson, (1816).

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### Deadwood Dates "Wild Bill" Hickok

Up at Deadwood, South Dakota on June 21, 1951, occurred the dedication of a twice-life size Black Hills granite bust of James Butler "Wild Bill" Hickok, the unique character that gave that area much of its color in the early days. The gift of George Hunter, a prominent Deadwood citizen, the heroic figure is the work of sculptor Korczak Ziolkowski. The occasion marked the seventy-fifth anniversary of the arrival of "Wild Bill" and his party in Deadwood, as well as the year of the gold rush to that locality.



## *Iowa People and Events . . .*

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### The Speaker's Objective

For decades prior to the advent of the radio, political campaign managers deluged the electorate with pamphlet campaign speeches of the party leaders and public officials. These utterances were delivered and printed for the purpose of acquainting the individual voters with both the party record and the candidate's position upon current public questions. Legislative acts and public expenditures usually were discussed in detail. Whether these documents influenced voters or swayed public opinion may well be questioned, but they constituted the major portion of pamphlets which party workers distributed in the heated political campaigns.

One summer of the long ago, when Sen. Leslie E. Francis was a farm lad living near Spirit Lake, where later he was a prominent attorney, U. S. Sen. William B. Allison was billed to make an address at a Republican rally to be held there. Young Francis knew of Allison's high standing at Washington, and as one of the leaders of the Republican party in Iowa and the nation. Therefore, he decided to attend the rally. He wondered if an insignificant farm boy would be admitted to a crowded opera house, where the event would be staged. But, he had no difficulty in getting in and finding a seat, for aside from the senator and the county chairman who introduced the speaker, only a scant half-dozen other people were there, including the shorthand court reporter, who would take down the speech of the senator, the township committeeman, the janitor of the building and Francis himself.

He was amazed at the small turn-out, and wondered whether the meeting would be held or abandoned. He felt discomfited that an outstanding statesman like

Allison had attracted no greater attention. But, apparently, the senator gave the situation only a passing thought, for upon being introduced by the chairman, immediately plunged into a speech of over an hour, given without manuscript or notes, as was his custom. He quoted from party platforms, congressional acts, and statistical records with the readiness and assurance of the great national political leader that he was; and Francis wondered why he would waste so great an effort on so few people, but was filled with awe and gratitude that he could be there and hear it.

Weeks later his father received in the mail from the state Republican headquarters, a group of campaign documents, among which was the great Allison speech delivered at Spirit Lake, which he had heard. Seemingly it mattered little to the campaign management that few actually heard it or cared enough to attend the event, although it was a Republican community. The material gathered and presented by Allison was the Republican plea of the year, and as the "key note" of the party for the state and country at large, it likewise mattered little where it was delivered and how many people heard. Later in life Francis learned that even in congress there are many times when few members sit in the house or senate chamber to listen to set speeches by their colleagues, although debates generally bring packed audiences.

Witness a great many years later, when Governor Cummins was being hotly opposed for a third term nomination by Geo. D. Perkins of Sioux City, and a joint debate between these Iowa Republican leaders was held in the same room in Spirit Lake, also heard by Senator Francis, who now was a chairman of the assemblage. This time the opera house was packed, and standing room at a premium. People came from miles around, even from adjoining counties, to listen to the debate, so great was the interest. Daily Iowa newspapers had present their representatives reporting the speeches.

But this time, it was not just a campaign document in the making. The extemporaneous arguments and flashing sallies of the speakers, reflecting personal beliefs forcefully expressed, received the applause and approval of the supporters of the two speakers. It was an event long remembered as a turning point in a warm campaign that was quickly reaching a conclusion; and not all the discussion indulged in by the able speakers was used later in campaign documents.

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## The Rush for Iowa Land

Although land in the Iowa District, as the area was originally designated, was not legally thrown open for settlement until June 1, 1833, numerous white had immigrated into and settled in the Indian country. Some of these, according to Prof. R. F. Wood, had married Indian women, notably among whom was Dr. Muir. He had become very much attached to his wife and when, by order of his government he was given the option of resigning from the army or abandoning his Indian wife, he at once resigned from the army saying, "May God forbid that a son of Caledonia should ever desert his wife or abandon his child."

Until the land was legally opened for settlement, the bands of soldiers stationed on the frontier to protect the Indians and restrain unscrupulous whites from unlawful acts, were kept busy. Finally the preparations were completed and the rush for land began.

The first settlers were stalwart, brawny men, capable of enduring the hardships incident to pioneer life and confident of their ability to carve out their fortunes. Camping in the groves that fringed the water courses, our pioneers lived in cabins made of logs, uncleaned of their bark, with doors made of split clapboards, with greased paper for windows. Nothing daunted, they saw promise ahead, and willing hearts and working hands wasted no time.

Kindred circumstances begot kindly social relations, and no newcomer, when ready to raise his cabin home,

failed to find strong hands to give him the needed lift. Then followed the spread of simple, wholesome fare which was partaken of by workers whose appetites needed no coaxing to render full justice to the banquet.

Organizing for mutual protection, they pledged themselves to stand by each other. In the absence of laws protecting their claims from mercenary speculators, they organized and enacted homestead and pre-emption laws, long in advance of the legislation which was subsequently founded upon the recognition of the justice of this principle, thus first established by the necessities of the early pioneers.

Early settlers wrote back to the friends and relatives in the east glowing accounts of the "New Eldorado," and the Iowa Territory began to become famous. So that when the new purchase was obtained in 1842 and arrangements completed to have it thrown open to settlement three years later, a swarm of homeseekers came, eager to get a title to some of this fertile land.

People of this generation who are familiar with the land openings in Oklahoma, can appreciate the conditions applied to the disposition of the Iowa lands. The eastern portion was to be vacated by the Indians April 30, 1843. For weeks previous to this, settlers with their families were squatting on the border line ready to make the rush for homes. The signal was given at midnight and then with frenzied shouts and general uproar the new land was appropriated.

A steady stream of settlers poured into this "Promised Land" from the south and east. Newspapers were filled with long drawn out accounts of this land rush. The roads were thronged with people and "prairie schooners," as the canvass covered wagons were called, dotted the landscape as far as the eye could see. Ferries over the Mississippi were worked overtime to meet the unusual demands made on them. Some of the eastern towns reported that from 550 to 1,000 im-



migrants were passing through each day. In 1843 the population of Iowa was but 43,017, while in 1855, it was 500,000.

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## Kossuth County's Bitter Fight

The extensive files of Iowa newspapers in the stacks of the newspaper division of the Iowa Department of History and Archives are constantly used in research by magazine and newspaper writers, authors and many other persons seeking data upon Iowa historical events. In recent months W. C. Dewell of the *Algona Advance*, in preparing material commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of that paper in 1901, spent some time in the department checking early files of that publication.

He recalled the circumstances of the establishment of the *Advance* by Geo. C. Call, it being a political venture in the interest of A. D. Clarke, a candidate for representative from Kossuth county in the Twenty-ninth Iowa General Assembly. Gardner Cowles had served in the Twenty-eighth, and there had been a long standing one-term rule in the county. Cowles was seeking a second term, which many local politicians considered a violation of the rule, and A. D. Clarke had a large following as the opposing candidate.

Harvey Ingham was then a resident of Algona and editor of the *Algona Upper Des Moines*. Then, as later, he was a friend of Cowles and supported his candidacy; hence the need of a newspaper in the field to help the Clarke forces. Mr. Dewell, then a resident of Burt, was the Republican committeeman in Burt township, and now says that being rather young he was a bit timid, for the representative fight grew very hot. Much bitterness was engendered. Liquor and money for votes were in evidence, and during this contest one county committeeman was said to have come into possession of a fine riding nag.

On the day of the precinct election of delegates to the county convention, Committeeman Dewell safe-

guarded the passing upon qualification of voters to cast ballots in that township by selecting two assistants as referees—one a Clarke man and the other a Cowles man, with understanding that two of the three should control the voting in event the right of those asking for ballots be challenged.

Oddly, there were many strangers in the county that day. In Burt township a railroad gang of about fifty track men were working and presented themselves at the polls to vote. This was an experience that Mr. Dewell feared, and consultation between the two referees and the committeeman resulted. The Clarke referee favored letting the men vote, while Dewell and the Cowles referee dissented, and the men were not allowed to vote, because of not being residents of the township. It developed that Burt township had the deciding delegate votes in the convention, and the fifty rejected votes might have been important.

It was a long time before the bitterness of that county campaign died down. Cowles was renominated and re-elected. A. D. Clarke later became one of the editors of the *Advance*, and it took a dozen or fifteen years for the paper and the people to forget the incidents of the fight and live down the rancor created by the partisans. Harvey Ingham later sold his interests there and became editor of the *Des Moines Register and Leader*, and Mr. Cowles the publisher, both continuing residents of Des Moines until their deaths.

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### Kenyon Vote for Vice President

A sizable group of delegates to the Republican National Convention at Cleveland, Ohio, on June 10-12, 1924, voted for Senator William S. Kenyon, of Iowa, for nomination for vice-president, on two ballots, with the nomination finally going to Charles G. Dawes of Illinois.

On the first ballot had after Calvin Coolidge had been nominated for president, the vote was quite

widely scattered, with Frank O. Loudon receiving 222, William S. Kenyon 172, Charles G. Dawes 149. On the second ballot the excitement was intense, with the Illinois delegation making a drive for Governor Lowden, whose final tabulation of votes was 766, with Kenyon receiving 68, Dawes 49 and Burton 94. The nomination of Lowden was then made unanimous.

A recess was taken by the convention and Lowden was notified by telephone at his home, of his nomination. This he declined by notice to the delegates as follows:

Though greatly appreciating the honor I hereby decline the nomination for vice-president which is tendered me.

The convention refused to accept the communication, whereupon the secretary read an Associated Press dispatch then received from Lowden, as follows:

I thank the convention, but I must decline the nomination. So far I have always kept my word to the public when I have given it. I shall do so now. I told the public I was not to be a candidate for vice-president. I will not go back on my word. I thank the convention, but will not accept the nomination.

When the convention proceeded to another roll call at the evening session, the result was Dawes 682½, Hoover 234½ and a few scattered votes, thereby nominating Charles G. Dawes, who was elected vice-president.

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## Iowa Smokestacks and the Silos

Economists say that communities with large industrial payrolls almost invariably have an increasing population and a per capita income considerably above the national average. Conversely, communities with little industry generally suffer from declining population.

Local economic experts need not go beyond Iowa's borders to establish the truth of these claims. For example, Iowa's ten top industrial counties employment-wise accounted for more than two-thirds of the total state industrial payroll in 1947. Their average per

capita income that year was \$1,401—\$108 above the national average. In only three of these counties was per capita income below the U.S. average. The 1950 census showed that these counties increased their population by an average of more than 10,000 persons per county during the decade 1940-1950.

In contrast, the ten Iowa counties with the fewest industrial employees had an average per capita income of \$796 in 1947. One of them had a per capita income of \$529, lowest in the state, and only one of the ten had a per capita income of more than \$1,000. Census figures in 1950 indicated that in these ten counties where industry was sparse population decreased an average 1,664 persons in the period between 1940 and 1950. Since the average population of these counties was 14,433 persons, the average decrease was greater than ten percent.

Citizens of the ten top industrial counties earned \$605 more per capita and the population of these communities increased an average of thirteen percent during the ten-year period.

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## Utterances of Speakers Censored

Not often enough, perhaps, but it is the usual rule that the speeches and writings of public men are carefully read and censored by those near them and in position to be more cautious and conservative than the speaker or writer. Defensively this custom often saves public men from imprudent or inaccurate statements, that possibly might tend to subject them to criticism or reproof because of extreme or unguarded declarations.

Not always is this responsibility well exercised by those closest to the individual giving voice to opinions through public utterances. Oftentimes the friendly critics are cloaked in the background in rendering this valuable service. As an instance that will interest Iowa people was the occasion when one of Iowa's leading orators, Nate Kendall, of Albia, later to be gover-



nor, occupied the nation's eye in delivering the nominating speech to the Republican national convention at Chicago in 1916, in which he outlined the qualities and availability of Senator Albert B. Cummins for the party's nomination for president of the United States.

Kendall's matchless oratory was acknowledged, of course, but his judgement in the statement of qualifications or recital of the record of his candidate was considered more important. Then it was that a committee from those in the Iowa delegation's headquarters was selected consisting of Judge William S. Kenyon, Ora Williams and John C. Kelly, who in advance carefully read the manuscript of the speech to be made by Kendall, scrutinizing every statement and fortunately endorsing every word. A strange group, perhaps, but a competent one, and Kendall did not question their right to the precautions taken, for they were from the Cummins inner circle. And the speech was magnificently delivered and applauded to the echo, although another man became the convention's nominee.

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## The Corn Belt's Plastic Buckle

If there's a buckle on the Corn Belt it's probably made of soybean plastic. Soybeans are a vital key in the fascinating new science of chemurgy, and Iowa, which ranks third in soybean production and second in soybean processing, is in the nation's vanguard.

Processing soybeans may well be Iowa's most widely dispersed major industry. There are 32 separate plants located in 26 of the Hawkeye state's 99 counties. Linn county leads with three plants. Plants are also located in Wright (2), Appanoose, Clinton, Polk (2), Grundy, Dubuque, Fayette, Webster (2), Tama, Hardin, Worth, Marshall, Muscatine, Chickasaw, Bremer, Cherokee, Carroll, Dallas, Sac, O'Brien, Woodbury, Clay, Washington, Black Hawk and Palo Alto counties.

The majority of the 32.5 million bushels of soybeans grown in Iowa during 1951 were processed into animal

feeds and soybean oil. Unlike the southeastern states, very few Iowa soybeans were cut for hay or plowed under to enrich the soil. A nineteenth century Chinese immigrant, the soybean was not exactly an overnight success in the United States, even though it had been raised for human and animal food in the Far East for many centuries.

As late as in 1924 the total United States soybean production was a mere five million bushels. Twenty-six years later the total had risen to a staggering 300 million bushels. Production increased 100 million bushels in the period from 1946 to 1950 alone.

Iowa production, meanwhile, climbed from 120,000 bushels in 1924, to more than 42 million bushels, valued at more than \$112 million in 1950. The reason for the soybean's rise in universal consumption was the discovery by scientists that the vivid green plants were a source of raw materials unsurpassed in nature.

Among the unusual products made from soybeans are beverage flavorings, breakfast food, flour, health foods, spaghetti, meat substitutes, cooking oil, sausage binders, soups, seasonings, vitamin pills, cream whipping agents, margarine, insecticides; as also are glue, protective coatings for fabrics (oilcloth), leather dressings, lubricating grease, paint, soap, wallpaper coverings, plastics, putty, floor tiles, resins, protein used in making synthetic wool and the foam used in many popular fire extinguishers.

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## Combating the Moral Breakdown

That most excellent new book entitled "Moral and Spiritual Values in Education," provides a competent guide to the teaching of values in public schools without violating the separation of church and state. William Clayton Bower, professor emeritus of the University of Chicago, is the author. The book is published by the University of Kentucky, Lexington.

The signs of moral breakdown in the nation today, Mr. Bower points out, are traceable directly to the

failure of educators to fill the gap left when the secularization of American public schools removed the religious content from curricula. He examines the various attempts to restore the teaching of values without religion, concluding that the only practical, sound plan is based on the philosophy that values appealing to children are present within the school community and need only to be made vivid to them by sensitive teachers.

A program of emphasis of values as they arise in classroom and playground situations, Mr. Bower writes, has a double advantage. Any school with a competent staff can introduce it without added expense or reorganization of teaching schedules. Furthermore, such a program will not arouse opposition of church groups nor violate recent court decisions excluding religion from public school curricula.

Mr. Bower has not set forth a blueprint for an idealistic program, but rather he has drawn general principles from his experience as adviser to a Kentucky movement, now in its third year, to introduce moral and spiritual education into the state's schools. Supervised by Kentucky's six teacher-education institutions, an experimental program was set up in selected public schools. This year the results of the experimentation were included in the State Department of Education's "Curriculum Guide" for use in every primary and secondary school in Kentucky.

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## Burlington Railroad Officials

The C. B. & Q. railroad, popularly known in its area as "The Burlington," has prepared a photograph of its officary through the past years, consisting of its presidents and chief engineers.

The presidents and their terms of office include these: S. F. Gale, 1849-1851, 1852-1853; E. S. Wadsworth, 1851-1852; C. Mason, 1852-1853; J. M. Brooks, 1853-1855, 1864-1865; A. W. Saunders, 1855; J. C. Hale, 1855-1856; W. F. Coolbaugh, 1856-1857; F. L. Baker, 1857-1864;

J. F. Joy, 1865-1871, 1853-1857; George Tyson, 1869-1880; John Van Nortwick, 1857-1864; J. M. Walker, 1871-1876; Robert Harris, 1876-1878; J. M. Forbes, 1878-1881; C. E. Perkins, Sr., 1881-1901; George B. Harris, 1901-1910; Darius Miller, 1910-1914; C. E. Perkins, Jr., 1918-1920; Hale Holden, 1914-1929; F. E. Williamson, 1929-1931; Ralph Budd, 1932-1949; H. C. Murphy, 1949-.

The chief engineers: John W. Brooks, 1850-1853; Han Thilsen, 1853-1869; Max Hjortsburg, 1867-1871; S. H. Mallory, 1871-1873; Thomas Doane, 1869-1873; Warren Beckwith, 1873-1879; R. J. McClure, 1878-1883, 1883-1889; George C. Smith, 1883-1889; E. J. Blake, 1889-1899, 1899-1905; W. L. Breckinridge, 1900-1905; T. E. Calvert, 1905-1917; A. W. Newton, 1917-1937; F. T. Darrow, 1937-1943; H. R. Clarke, 1943-.

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## Blessed His Alma Mater

An old man (name not known) called at the State University of Iowa at Iowa City on November 12, 1884, looked about the campus, entered the Old Capitol building, and after strolling into various rooms, remarked to a group who observed him:

"'Tis over twenty years since I last stood here, and now it is my privilege to once more look upon these surroundings and through the rooms where the legislature of one of the proudest states in this Union used to sit and debate upon the questions concerning the life and welfare of this state and the nation; and for this privilege I thank God. I now recall some of those days that have gone in the eventful history of this state. None of the faces that I used to see here at that time are here now, and no doubt the most of them are hidden beneath the sod. I see you now use the old hall as the law lecture room and I hope it is turning out many young men to be useful and profitable citizens to take part in the administration of our government. Young gentlemen, I am glad to have met and see that you are preparing for the future. As I must take the next train west, I will bid you good-day."



## Iowa's Notable Dead . . .

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FRED HAHNE, publisher, livestock specialist and industrialist, died March 19, 1952, at Webster City, Iowa, the home of his birth, on March 17, 1877; started at age of fifteen as an office worker in a Webster City newspaper environment, his death ending the sixty years of his business career; founded not only his own printing business in 1902, but from there went on to establish in 1919 the *Aberdeen-Angus Journal*, an internationally circulated livestock publication, and in 1930 established the Strathmore farms, where was formed one of the largest herds of Aberdeen-Angus cattle in the world; celebrated the golden anniversary of his business on February 13, 1952, and his 75th birthday on March 17th last; his entire life spent in Webster City excepting one and one-half years as foreman of a Spencer, Iowa, newspaper, prior to the establishment of his own print shop at the former place; served upon the Webster City council and as mayor, and always active in civic affairs; specialized in printing pedigreed livestock sale catalogs from which activity the *Aberdeen-Angus Journal* emerged as a flourishing and influential trade publication, attaining a circulation of 18,000 copies mailed all over the world; located his Strathmore farms on a 340-acre tract north of Webster City, now the home of his celebrated mammoth herd of the Angus breed of cattle; the expanded business required the erection of a large brick structure occupied since 1928 by the publishing company, an addition for housing new equipment being erected in 1951; retired some time ago from active management of the printing company which is now under the direction of his son, Dick, with his son-in-law, Gay Quammen as advertising manager; and despite his long illness, would drop in occasionally to visit the printing plant where he had spent so many active years; has been active in the Republican party, a leader in community work, also was zealous in church work and for many years taught a Sunday school class at the United Brethren church, his later years being a member of the Universalist church and assisted in church work as long as his health permitted. During his long business career a member of many societies affiliated with the livestock business, and prominent in the programs of many of those organizations; in fraternal circles a member of Acacia Lodge, A. F. and A. M. of Webster City, the Elks lodge and the Woodmen of the World, a charter member of the Court of Honor in Webster City and a member

of the Za-Ga-Zig shrine of Des Moines; preceded in death by his first wife, the former Miss Clara Adams, with whom he was united in marriage Dec. 29, 1897, who died August 24, 1943; also was preceded in death by one son, Myron, who died Oct. 15, 1918; survivors include his wife, the former Mrs. Faye E. Parker, with whom he was united in marriage Aug. 21, 1939; by one son, Richard, and two daughters, Mrs. Gay (Winnifred) Quammen and Mrs. T. R. (Georgianna) Amsden, all of Webster City; by two stepdaughters, Mrs. Merlin (Beatrice) Nelson of Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, and Mrs. Wendall (Dorothy) Woodall of Denison, Iowa; by a foster son, Richard D. Willey of Chicago; nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

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PAUL E. STILLMAN, publisher and legislator, died at Carona del Mar, California, February 15, 1952; born in Chicago, Illinois, November 4, 1863; the son of E. B. and Elizabeth Bowman Stillman; attended school in Chicago, and then at Waucoma, Iowa, where his father engaged in the business of milling; later attended high school at the Chicago Manual Training school; came with his parents to Iowa in 1856, who resided in Iowa City, Des Moines and Sioux City, the father established the *Sioux City Journal* in 1863 following that returned to Chicago and operated a printing establishment until the great Chicago fire, after which the Stillmans returned to Iowa and to Waucoma, and in 1884 became associated in the publication of the *Jefferson Bee*; entered University of Michigan in 1887, graduating in 1891 with degree of bachelor of arts; purchased an interest in the *Bee* that year and becoming active in its publication with his brother Frank; became a member of the Iowa House of Representatives, serving three terms from 1907 to 1911, being speaker of the house in the Thirty-fourth General Assembly, at which time he was in partnership with Victor H. Lovejoy in the publication of the *Bee*; in 1914 was temporary chairman of the Republican state convention, and in 1916 a delegate to the Republican national convention; served for eight years from 1915 as a member of the Iowa state board of education; removed to Glendale, California in 1923, and established the Stillman Printing Co., in which he remained active until a short time prior to his death; married Edith May Anderson of Jefferson, in February, 1894, who died, and is survived by his wife, Anne Ruth Anderson, a son, Paul B. Stillman, and two daughters, Mrs. James Van Scoy and Mrs. Carol Higley, of Glendale, and three grandchildren; a member of the Presbyterian church, the Masonic bodies, I. O. O. F. and various civic organizations at both Jefferson and Glendale, and held an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Rollins college at Winter Park, Florida.

IDA B. WISE-SMITH, teacher, minister and temperance leader, died at Clarinda, Iowa, February 16, 1952; born in Philadelphia, Penn., July 3, 1871; daughter of Robert E. and Eliza Piper Speakman, the father a retired sea captain; came to Iowa with her mother two years later; graduated from the Hamburg, Iowa, high school, and the Kindergarten Training school; started teaching at age sixteen; was a student at the University of Nebraska, subsequently teaching at Missouri Valley, Iowa, and the Crocker school at Des Moines; married James W. Wise of Hamburg, September 3, 1899, who died in 1902, leaving a son, Carl Edwin Wise, who now resides in California; married at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, August 15, 1912, to Malcolm Smith, who died in 1915; became president of the Iowa W.C.T.U. in 1913, and two years later the state prohibition amendment to the constitution became effective; held the position twenty years until 1933, when she became president of the national W.C.T.U., from which position she resigned in 1945 on account of failing health; ordained as a minister of the Disciples of Christ in 1923, and preached in many Iowa Christian churches; served as president of the National Temperance Council, director of the Intercollegiate Prohibition Association, a trustee of the Benedict Home for Girls at Des Moines for twenty-five years; designated by a committee appointed by the governor of Iowa as one of ten "most honored women of the state" in 1925, and by the next governor as "most distinguished woman of the state" in 1928; widely known as a lecturer and public speaker; a member of the Woman's Committee of the Council of Defense, World War I, the League of Women Voters, the Conference of Social Agencies, the Eastern Star and many clubs and civic organizations; helped promote a child welfare and research station at the State University of Iowa, and sponsored the "children's code" which was written into Iowa law, and continued in church work after her retirement in 1946.

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EDWARD S. WELCH, pioneer nursery man and financier, died September 22, 1951, at Shenandoah, Iowa; born February 8, 1869, on a farm in Sangamon county, Illinois, the son of pioneering Welsh and Scotch parents, the family moving to a farm in Fremont county, Iowa, a few miles west of Shenandoah, residing there ten years and then going on to Kansas where they lived until 1882, when they moved back to Shenandoah; associated that year with E. A. Martin in growing fruit trees and other nursery stock for D. S. Lake, and at the same time attended Western Normal college in Shenandoah; purchased with Mr. Martin the Mount Arbor nurseries in 1889, and two years later bought out his partner; married Ida Ann Boydstum in 1891, who died June 1, 1931; married Mae L. Leflay in 1933, who survives him with two children, Gertrude, the wife

of the late Earl E. May, and Wayne, of Zillah, Washington, a sister, Mrs. Mary Malone of Mobile, Alabama, and a brother, John O. Welch of Prescott, Arizona; developed the Mount Arbor nurseries in a remarkable way, establishing five important branch nurseries at Fremont, Nebraska, St. Joseph, Missouri, Gustin, California, Zillah, Washington, and North Collins, New York, shipping stock to all 48 states and Alaska, and to Canada, Mexico and other foreign countries; from a small local concern developed a nationwide business, with 3,635 acres under cultivation and conducting one of the largest wholesale nurseries in the world; became financially interested in many other enterprises, including the May Seed & Nursery company, the May Broadcasting company, two sound banks, and the Home Building & Loan association; in 1926 was awarded a certificate of eminent service by the Iowa State College at Ames; served as chairman of the standardization committee and as president of the American Association of Nurserymen, which gained him just fame; always active in community affairs, a member of the Congregational church, Kawanis, Elks and Masonic branches, and a wide range of civic organizations; with his family making public benefactions, including gift of Waubonsie park to the city, the Country club to the American Legion and provision for a whole wing of the proposed addition to the Hand hospital; during 61 years in business amassed a fortune, leaving an estate of one and one-half million dollars, according to the inventory valuations subsequently filed in the Page county district court, representing the fruits of his struggle from poverty to riches in a difficult field of economic enterprise, and withal a kindly man of personal charm, loved in his community as well as successful in business enterprises.

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CHARLES A. WILLIAMS, banker, insurance executive and mining operator, died at the home of his son in Los Angeles, Cal., March 15, 1952, a few days after arrival on the west coast for a vacation, coming from his home at Oskaloosa, Iowa; born at Pomeroy, Ohio, July 16, 1870, son of Dave W. and Elizabeth Pascoe Williams; came to Beacon, Iowa, when a small boy, and soon was working in the coal mines in the vicinity; early in youth went to Mexico as a gold mine prospector; went to Lucas, Iowa as a young man and opened a general store, becoming acquainted there with John L. Lewis; married Emily D. Rogers of Chariton on February 11, 1902; spent two years in Canada operating a store in a mining camp; organized the Rex Fuel Company, heading its activities for a long period; assisted in locating many important industries in Oskaloosa, and became head of the city's first planning commission; was president of the Mahaska State bank until his 75th birth-



day, when he retired from active work and became chairman of its board; also served as chairman of the board of the Bituminous Casualty corporation of Rock Island, and among his numerous business activities, held the same relation to the Western Grocery Co.; a member of the Congregational church throughout his lifetime and prominent in civic activities; survived by his wife and three sons, Charles A. Williams, Jr. of Oskaloosa, Roger M. Williams of Dallas, Texas, and Jack Williams of Los Angeles, six grandchildren, and one sister, Miss Edith Wynn Williams of Oskaloosa.

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ABRAM EDWARD CORY, minister, missionary and executive, died March 20, 1952, at Indianapolis, Indiana; born at Osceola, Iowa, August 13, 1873, son of Nathan Edward and Margaret Connoran Cory; received his B.A. degree at Eureka (Ill.) College in 1894, and his M. A. at Drake University, Des Moines, in 1898; did graduate work at Columbia and Union Theological Seminary; received a D. D. degree at Drake in 1914 and LL.D. at Eureka in 1915; married Bertha Adkins of Osceola, Sept. 30, 1895; served the Disciples of Christ in China as a missionary and educator fifteen years; engaged in the activities of the Disciples in America since 1912; secretary of the Foreign Christian Missionary Society, director of the Men and Millions missionary movement, vice president of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ, secretary of the United Christian Missionary of the Disciples, a member of the executive committee of the International Christian Endeavor Society and the World's Christian Endeavor Society; was pastor of the Gordon street Church of the Disciples at Kinston, N.C.; served as director of the Pension Fund of the Disciples and was a chaplain with the U.S. army in the Phillipines in 1900; served overseas with the Y.M.C.A. in World War I, in 1918, and from 1941 to 1950, when he retired, was professor of missions at Butler University at Indianapolis; was an author of several religious works and wrote extensively for the church press.

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GEORGE M. BECHTEL, investment banker and financier, died at Davenport, Iowa, March 21, 1952; born at Nevada, Harrison county, Missouri, April 1, 1868; son of J. C. and Matilda Stecher Bechtel; spent his childhood in Nevada and at the age of twelve began working in a local bank and also attended high school in Nevada; started for himself in investment banking in 1891 at Davenport by organizing the George M. Bechtel Co., which became the largest securities brokerage house in Iowa; married Martha Reimers of Davenport October 11, 1893, who preceded him in death in 1944; founded the Independent Baking Co. in Davenport in 1905 and served

as its president many years; built the Mississippi hotel and theatre building in 1930; also founded the First Trust and Savings bank in Davenport, retiring from the presidency of that institution in 1947; a charter member of the Davenport Rotary club and had other fraternal affiliations; a member of the First Presbyterian church and was formerly a member of the board of trustees of Grinnell college, a 50-year Mason and held the 33rd degree; survived by a son, Harold R. Bechtel of Davenport, four daughters, Mrs. Don Barber, Miami, Florida, Mrs. J. B. Rittenhouse, St. Davids, Penn., Mrs. Allen E. Lusk, Davenport, and Mrs. Tom V. Frank of Pleasant Valley, and twelve grandchildren.

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JOHN C. CROCKETT, attorney, clerk of Iowa supreme court and reading clerk in U. S. senate forty years, died at Washington, D.C., June 6, 1952; born in Galena, Illinois, June 17, 1864; son of Edwin A. and Catherine Crockett, both natives of England; removed with his parents to Alden, Hardin county, Iowa, in 1869, and his boyhood spent upon a farm; received his schooling in the Alden high school and the State University of Iowa; worked two years in a general store, then taught school and studied law in the office of Judge Benjamin P. Birdsall, during this period being prominent in theatricals; took the law course at the State University of Iowa, graduating in the class of 1883, and returning to Hardin county practiced law in the office of Judge S. M. Weaver; married Myrtle May Gifford of Spencer, Iowa, in 1891; to them in 1893 was born a daughter, now Mrs. Avonelle C. Noah of Washington, D.C., his only survivor; appointed in 1893 deputy county clerk by his brother, Frank W. Crockett, in 1896 was elected clerk, and in 1898 re-elected; became reading clerk of the Twenty-ninth Iowa General Assembly in 1902; and served as clerk of the Iowa Supreme court from 1903 to 1908, after which he became reading clerk of the U. S. senate, serving forty years in that capacity until retirement; in fraternal circles was prominent in the Knights of Pythias, and honored in the Masonic order, holding the office of deputy Grand Master of Iowa in 1905-1906, becoming a 33rd degree Mason and active in all the bodies of Masonry; a Republican in politics, retaining through the years his Iowa official residence, although he had a house and some 400 acres of land in nearby Maryland, close to the Manor Country club, Norbeck, but sold this property in 1947 when he retired, and with his daughter resided at Hotel Claridge.

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RALPH W. CRAM, retired editor and publisher, and aviation promoter, died May 8, 1952, at Davenport, Iowa; born June 19, 1869, in Zanesville, Ohio; educated in the public schools and on removal of the family to Davenport obtained a job in the *Democrat* office at the age of 14, and worked six years at learning that

trade; then became a reporter in the editorial department of the paper, having the distinction of being its first full-time reporter in the sense that reporters are now known; made city editor in 1903 and promoted to managing editor in 1908; continued with the paper until 1940, when he retired; active in civic work of every nature and put a great deal of energy into the development of aviation, becoming a flyer, taking his first solo flight when 62 years of age; married to Mabel LaVenture of Davenport December 27, 1892; was deeply interested in educational projects and a member of the Contemporary club, chairman of the board of the Morris Plan company, the Iowa Commission on Aeronautics, and vice-president of the National Aeronautical association; honored by Davenport calling its first municipal airport Cram Field, a former president of the Kiwanis club, a member of the Davenport Advertisers club, many other civic organizations, and the Presbyterian church; from five children three are surviving, being Dr. Eloise B. Cram, Washington, D.C., Mrs. Margaret Siemen, Davenport, and Mrs. M. M. Miller, San Diego, California; a son Ralph, an aeronautic engineer, was killed in the crash of an experimental plane March 18, 1939, and another son, Herbert, who died at the age of 5; five grandchildren also surviving.

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CLAUDE R. WHITLOCK, Indian educator, agency supervisor and Bureau of Indian Affairs official for 45 years, died May 25, 1952, at Washington, D.C., having retired from active service a year previous to residing in Washington; born in Corning, Iowa, October 19, 1880; educated at Teacher's college, Springfield, Missouri; began his long service under the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 1905, when he became a day school-teacher on the Chyenne River Reservation in South Dakota; served almost half a century spanning the years that United States troops were in charge of Indian education and when the Episcopal Church also briefly took over school administration of one reservation; for the past fourteen years, until his voluntary retirement last year, was superintendent of the Rosebud (Sioux) Indian Agency, Rosebud, S. Dak.; one of the outstanding accomplishments of his career being the development of a Tribal Land Enterprise for the Rosebud Sioux Indians, designed to aid their economic rehabilitation; a member of the Kiwanis, Mason, Scottish Rite, and the Shrine; the National Federation of Federal Employees, and the Washington Society of Cinematographers; survived by his wife, Mrs. M. Gertrude Whitlock, of 4105 Wisconsin ave. nw., Washington; by his daughter, Mrs. Charles H. Jennings, 4115 Wisconsin ave. nw., librarian with the Department of Agriculture; a sister, Mrs. Mabel Smith, of Hominy, Okla., and a brother, Fred Whitlock, of Eldon, Mo.

GEORGE A. KELLOGG, banker, legislator and land operator, died May 9, 1952, at St. Joseph's hospital, Omaha, Nebraska; born May 19, 1872, at Missouri Valley, Iowa, where he resided his entire life, with exception of occupying a winter apartment in Omaha in recent years; his parents, Lorenzo and Joanna Airis Kellogg, were of English and Scotch descent and long residents of Harrison county; acquired his education in the schools of Missouri Valley and attended Cornell college at Mount Vernon, Iowa, one year before entering the banking business with his father, a pioneer financier, whose capacity for wise and judicious banking he inherited, along with substantial property interests; began as a clerk in the C. H. Duer lumber and coal yard in 1889, and entered the employ of the First National Bank of Missouri Valley as assistant cashier in 1895, and served that institution as president from 1901 until his retirement a few years ago, remaining on its board of directors until his death; held the office of city treasurer a number of years; chairman of the Harrison county Republican committee for the years 1903 to 1905; elected state representative in 1906, serving two terms; besides heavy bank and financial investments owned and supervised operation of over 5,000 acres of Harrison county land; in addition to civic activities was a member of the Masonic order, Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen, Elks and Yoemen.

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HENRY EDMOND FRY, attorney and jurist, died May 20, 1952, at Boone, Iowa, the city of his birth, which occurred September 13, 1870; a son of Henry and Mary Fry, the father being one of ten children reared upon the old homestead in Gouverneur, St. Lawrence county, New York, and removed to Boone county in 1861; spent his entire life in Boone, graduated from its high school in 1889, afterward attended Cornell college, and took partial law course at the State University of Iowa, afterward continued its study under the direction of J. J. Snell, of the Boone bar, until qualified for admission to practice, which he began in 1901; had served as an accountant with the local Building and Savings association, and teller in the First National Bank of Boone; associated with John L. Stevens in the practice of law from 1902 until 1914; married in January 1913 to Elsa C. Odel of Red Oak, Iowa, a daughter of H. F. Odel; served as city solicitor two terms, from 1905 to 1909; became a district judge and served from 1915 to January 1951, when he retired, a period of 36 years; a member of the Masonic and Knights of Pythias orders and the Methodist church; survived by his widow and one daughter, Mrs. Jean Caldwell, also of Boone.

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BERTRAM O. TANKERSLEY, teacher, attorney and jurist, died May 30, 1952, at Marshalltown, Iowa; born in Mount Auburn, Illinois, November 26, 1877, the son of Lewis and Lauretta Davidson



Tankersley; graduated from the Mount Auburn schools and attended the Northern Illinois Normal school, and received a bachelor of science degree in 1898 from Maion college in Indiana; received a bachelor of laws degree from Drake University, Des Moines, in 1901, and after practicing law in that city for a time, located at Watertown, South Dakota, also teaching in the schools there; served as county supervisor of schools at Watertown, and worked for the MacMillen book company, returning to Iowa and locating at Marshalltown in the practice of law in 1912; elected county attorney of Marshall county in 1914 and became the city's first municipal judge in 1920; became district judge in 1929, since serving continuously in that capacity; past president of the Marshall county bar and a member of the Iowa State Bar association, the Lions club, the 20th Century club and the Congregational church; surviving are his wife, Grace; two daughters, Mrs. Perry L. Bodie, West Liberty, and Mrs. Loyal Meek, Cedar Rapids; four grandchildren, and one brother, Harry L. Tankersley of Mount Auburn, Illinois.

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JOHN ELY BRIGGS, political science professor and historian, died at Iowa City, February 9, 1952; born at Washburn, Iowa, July 30, 1890, son of William J. and Anna Briggs; moved to O'Brien county when a small boy, and later to Eagle Grove, Iowa where he graduated from the high school in 1909; attended Morningside college at Sioux City, and was graduated there in 1913; began graduate work at the State University, received his master's degree in 1914 and his Ph.D. in 1916; edited the *Pallimpsest*, published by the State Historical society for 23 years from 1922, has since been a professor in the department of political science; married Nellie Upham, at Melvin, Iowa, June 19, 1917; surviving with the widow are a daughter, Shirley, of Washington, D.C. and a brother, Wilbur A. Briggs, of LaPorte City, Iowa.

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JAMES GOW, playwright, scenarist and journalist, died February 11, 1952, at his home in New York, N. Y.; born in Creston, Iowa, in 1908; engaged as a scenarist and playwright for some years and also newspaper work; collaborated with Arnaud d'Usseau in writing the hit plays, "Tomorrow the World" and "Deep Are the Roots;" also the "Legend of Sarah" and the screen play for "One Night of Love;" survived by his wife, the former Olga Alexander.



# IOWA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND ARCHIVES

Claude R. Cook, Curator  
Des Moines

An institution of the State of Iowa, located at the seat of government, established as a department of the State in 1892, and administered by a Curator elected by a Board of Trustees composed of the Governor of the State, a Justice of the Iowa Supreme Court and the Superintendent of Public Instruction. It consists of the following divisions:

The Iowa Historical and Genealogical Library

The Public Archives of the State of Iowa

The State Census Records of Iowa

The War History Division—Gold Star Iowans

The Portrait Gallery of Iowa, exhibiting oil portraits of the outstanding men and women who have contributed to Iowa culture and progress

The Museum Division: Indian, geology, pioneer life, transportation, and natural history collections and exhibits

Publication: *ANNALS OF IOWA, a Magazine of History*

The Newspaper Division—Files of Iowa newspapers and periodicals from territorial days to the present

The Manuscript Collection including papers, addresses, documents and correspondence of eminent Iowans, supplying unrecorded chapters in state history

In the interest of preserving Iowa history, the Curator solicits the presentation, to the Manuscript Collection, of letters, dairies, family histories, and general manuscripts about Iowans and institutions in the area of which the state is a geographical part.

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## ANNALS OF IOWA

In the more than half a century the *ANNALS OF IOWA* has been published, it has been a repository for, and made available, a vast amount of valuable data on the history of the State otherwise not accessible. The securing of material, and editing and supervising its publication, is a part of the immediate task of carrying on the work of the Department in harmony with established traditions.

Bound files of the publication are preserved in countless libraries of the State, and may be consulted by those engaged in research and historical writing.

